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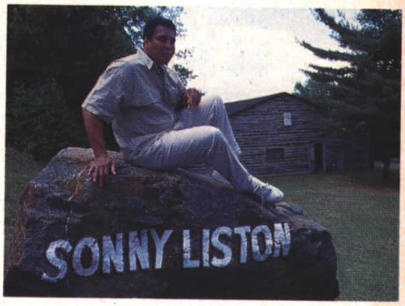

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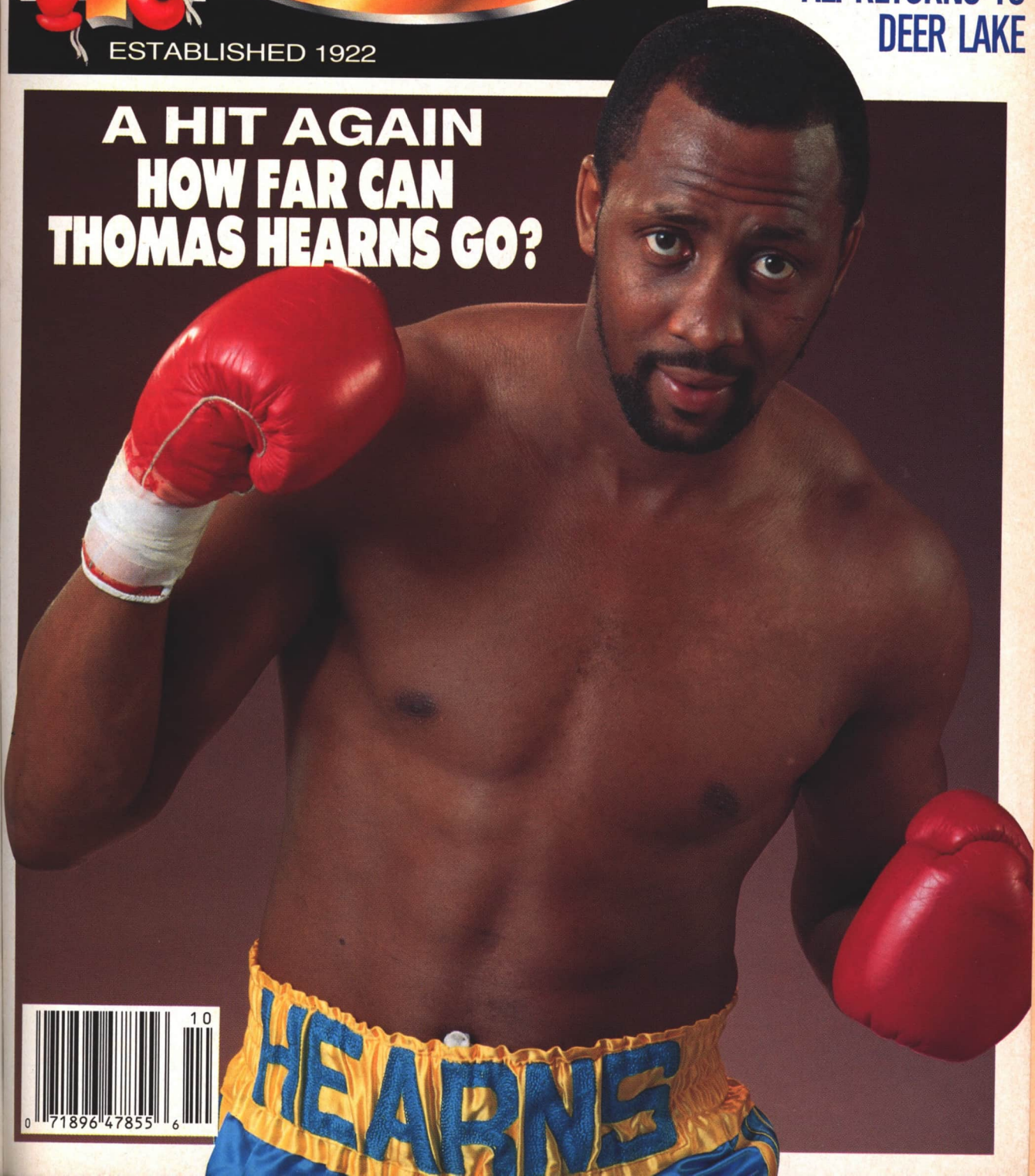

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Ringside

A couple of weeks ago, it was my Muhammad Ali week, which, for someone into boxing, is a very good week indeed. On June 4, Tom Hauser, whose biography of Ali is covered in this issue, invited me to attend a media bus trip with "The Greatest" to Deer Lake. (If you've never heard of Deer Lake, you're either reading the wrong magazine, or you're too young to know any better.) On June 7, I sat on a dais with Ali at the annual Boxing Writers Association of America awards dinner. Over the course of four days, I spoke with him more than I had in 13 years.

I've been asked the same question a dozen times since that week: Is Ali in as bad shape as he seems on TV? I'll tell you what I saw, and you can draw your own conclusions. On the trip to Deer Lake, Ali sat in the last row of the bus. At one point, I looked back, and he was dozing off, even as an ABC News cameraman focused for a tight face shot. Only seconds later, I heard wild screams and turned to see Ali climbing all over Jeremiah Shabazz, a longtime member of his entourage. Ali was tickling him unmercifully, and Shabazz was howling.

At camp, Ali was quiet, and I was frustrated by his unwillingness—or inability—to express his recollections of what he has called his favorite place on earth.

"I don't have to come here for memories," he mumbled at one point. I'm still not sure what he meant.

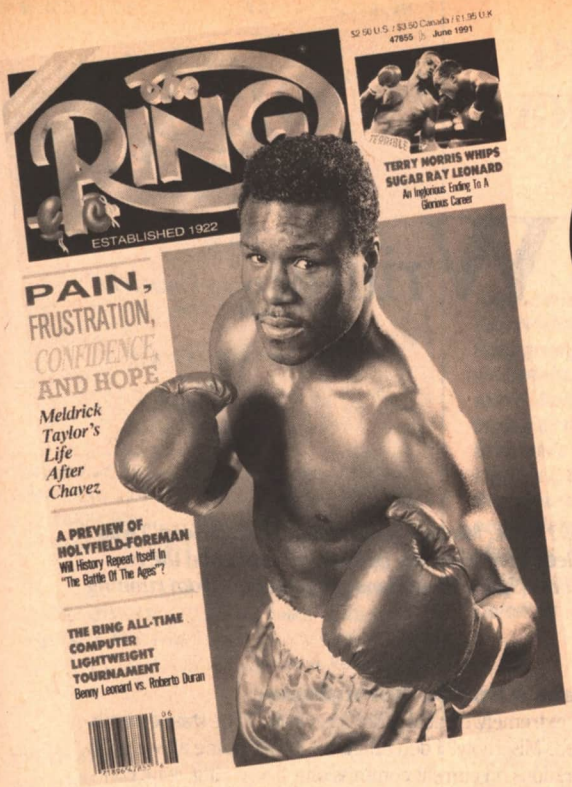
On the ride back, we sat next to each other, and he was playful again. His left hand was trembling. At the same time, he mischievously kept rubbing the fingers of his right hand together, inches away from the ear of the writer seated in front of him. When his victim would turn around, Ali would be seated innocently and casually. He may not be as quick as he once was, but he's still quick enough.

Ali signed autographs before and during the BWAA dinner, and for an hour after most of the guests had departed. He was the special guest, and I found it somewhat ironic that Earnie Shavers, a lifetime Ali admirer, had been chosen to introduce him. After all, there's no denying that Ali suffers from Parkinson's Syndrome because of the punches that fighters like Shavers delivered. When Ali approached the microphone, I recalled the bus trip and how difficult it had been to understand him. An embarrassing moment was sure to follow.

But Ali was captivating. He told a touching story about a slave named Omar, and I understood almost every word. The moral of the story was that we should never forget our roots. Ali hasn't forgotten his; a most uncommon man, he remains a hero most of all to the common man.

Before my week with Ali, I suspected that those who downplayed his symptons were doing so because they wanted to believe he was okay. Maybe I was wrong. Or maybe I'm now just as guilty as they've been.

Steve Farhood
Editor-In-Chief



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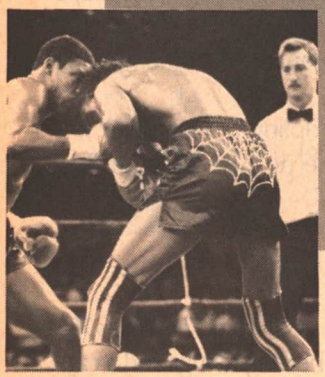


Zimmer works Milton-Olajide

Editor's Note: In our August 1991 issue, Michael Katz' column ("Katz Scan") was highly critical of certain state athletic commissions. Below, we've printed the responses of two of those commissions. (Space limitations prevented us from running the letters in full.)

RANDY GORDON
Chairman, New York State Athletic Commission

. . . Mr. Katz, a knowledgeable but extremely cynical observer, wrote, "The state commissions . . . have failed miserably." Failed? Miserably? I don't think so. Don't blame all we've inherited from past years and administrations on current commissions. If anything, state commissions are stronger and more effective today than at any time in the history of the sport.

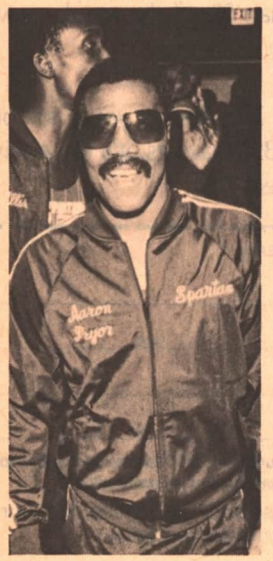
The Associations of Boxing Commissions, which was formed in the mid-1980s, has finally gelled, and nearly every state that has a commission is a member. All of us work in conjunction and unison with each other.

. . . Mr. Katz' article reeks of negativism and personal vendettas. Does he harbor bad feelings toward the Nevada Commission because he was physically roughed up by a Nevada policeman at ringside in the mid-1980s? If he does blame the Nevada Commission for that unfortunate incident, he must blame the commission that then existed, not the current one.

. . . A recent run-in with the head of the Florida commission, in which Katz nearly found himself ejected from ringside for rooting, jeering a referee, and acting like a fan, wouldn't have anything to do with Katz writing "Florida . . . should be forced to secede from the union," would it?

. . . As for Katz' line about New York being "a laughingstock when referee Ken Zimmer stopped a bout [Dennis Milton-Michael Olajide] prematurely because he began hearing bells," I found nearly all journalists praised the New York State Athletic Commission's professional handling of that sensitive and controversial issue in December 1989.

Fans need and look up to *The Ring*. They need to see the full picture, to learn the truth and make up their own minds as to what state commissions mean to the sport we love so much. Please give the fans what they deserve, rather than the one-sided and incomplete picture they saw, painted by the hand of Mike Katz.



Pryor in Wisconsin

CHUCK MINKER
Executive Director, Nevada Athletic Commission

In your August edition, Mike Katz wrote a very scathing article knocking the various boxing commissions. Your readers deserve to know that Mike applied for the chairmanship of the New York State Athletic Commission and was rejected. If the readers know that fact, then they can determine the fairness of the article. Common sense dictates this is sour grapes by a bitter boxing writer.

. . . Unfortunately, [Katz] is so bitter that he leaves out some key facts. There is an association of boxing commissions that has a goal of bringing the commissions together in a closer working relationship. He leaves out the use of Ralph Citro and Phill Marder in recordkeeping. They will let you know if a fighter is under suspension. Florida sends out a list of all the medical suspensions of the state commissions. It is easy to write about the state [Wisconsin] that didn't have a boxing commission, that licensed Aaron Pryor, but he leaves out those of us that refused [Pryor] a license.

I know it is boring reading that commissions actually are very competent, but Mike Katz has a professional obligation to the readers. I'm sure he never called one state commission. Come on—get off your butt and give your readers an honest job, instead of your lazy, bitter revenge piece over your rejection. If you were an official, you would be assigned four-round prelims for that dismal effort. ■

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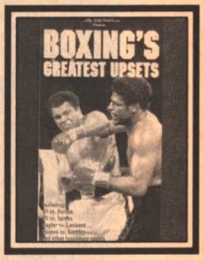

Among the fights featured in this action packed video are: Ken Norton's 1973 upset of Muhammad Ali, the first in a three fight grudge match ;Hearns vs.Iran Barkley, June 6, 1988; Ali vs. Spinks, February 15, 1978. A virtual unknown in the boxing world, Spinks stunned Ali, which turned out to be the beginning of the end for the great champion. Livingstone Bramble's upset of Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini, in a WBA Lightweight championship bout, June 1, 1984. Donald "Lone Star Cobra" Curry, considered at the time to be the best fighter pound for pound in the world, loses to Lloyd Honeyghan in a shocking Welterweight bout; Barry McGuigan vs. Steve Cruz, June 23, 1986 and more astonishing upsets!

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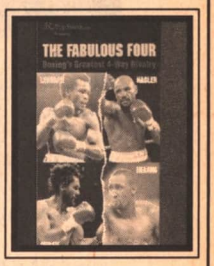

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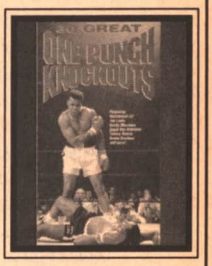

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Round One

AN "ANIMALISTIC" ACTOR

Actor Mickey Rourke proved convincingly in his pro debut at the War Memorial Auditorium in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, that he ain't no boxer. His four-rounder against auto mechanic Steve Powell, 3-5, resembled a grade school playground scuffle, and his performance en route to a unanimous decision victory was more befitting of a lead role in *The Jerk* than *Raging Bull.*

If the 34-year-old Rourke enjoys the role of villain, he must have relished his reception. The 2,300 fans who jammed the auditorium booed lustily upon Rourke's entrance, jeered whenever he used dirty tactics, and greeted the decision with catcalls. Through it all, Rourke showed that if he has any class at all, he left it in Hollywood.

Rourke roughed up Powell

Rourke, 178, started cautiously and absorbed one particularly good right hand from Powell, 178, in the first round before realizing that his foe could not hurt him. In fact, after the first round, Powell stopped throwing punches altogether, and Rourke spent the rest of the fight grappling, taunting, mugging, showboating, and fouling. In the second round, when hecklers began to taunt him, Rourke responded by grabbing his genitals.

Rourke, who had 26 amateur fights in the '70s, described his style as "animalistic," and said he would pursue about a dozen more bouts. Instead, he should take the advice of Alexis Arguello, who, just before the bout, urged Rourke to "do your thing." Arguello was right; it's just that acting, and not boxing, is his thing.

—Ken Knox

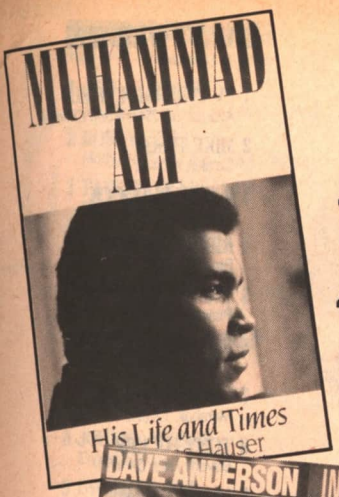
SHELBY'S REVENGE

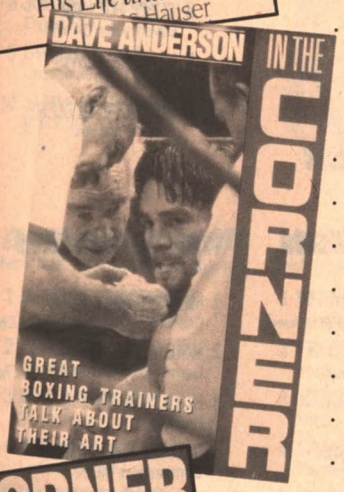
It took almost 68 years, but a score was settled on May 30, when the citizens of Shelby, Montana, a small prairie community near the Canadian border, staged a successful boxing card. On July 4, 1923, legendary manager Doc Kearns had bilked the town out of a $300,000 guarantee after his fighter, heavyweight champion Jack Dempsey, won a 15-round decision over Tommy Gibbons. The colorful Kearns left town under a cloak of darkness and with two suitcases full of money. Shelby subsequently went broke because, although 12,000 fans attended the fight, many of them had crashed the gate.

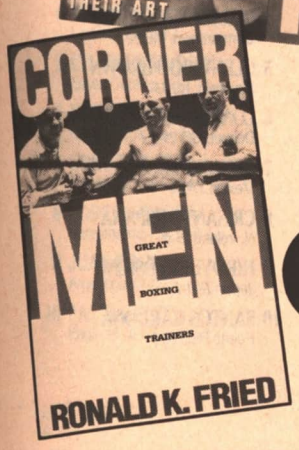
In his autobiography, Kearns said he had finally gotten even with Montana because, some years before, bankers from the Treasure State had cheated his father out of $100,000 in a gold-mining venture.

On the card in May, 3,000 fans—a crowd about equal to the town's population—paid $60,000 to see homestate hero and 1988 Olympian Todd Foster stop clubfighter Tommy Hanks. And every dollar was accounted for.

—Gary Langley







FISTIC BOOKSHELF

Muhammad Ali: His Life And Times, by Thomas Hauser (Simon & Schuster; $24.95), may not be the best boxing book ever written, but it is surely the most significant. What Hauser has done in this oral biography, in which most of the text is comprised of extended quotes, is twofold; he has examined Ali as both man and fighter, and placed his life in social, political, and religious perspective. No one has ever done it better.

The book was written with Ali's full cooperation. Nonetheless, Hauser draws a balanced profile. Like most great men, Ali is both simple and complex, and, ultimately, the author's tireless research serves to broaden the legend of the most famous man in the world.

Over the years, Ali has been loathed and vilified, admired and idolized, and, in recent years, cherished and pitied. Read this extraordinary work and you'll know him and love him for what he really is.

—Steve Farhood

Many books have been written about the great champions in ring history, but few have been devoted to the men that helped them become legends. In recent months, however, boxing fans have been hit with a two-punch literary combination, as authors Ronald K. Fried and Dave Anderson have penned accounts of some of the greatest cornermen in history.

In *Cornermen: Great Boxing Trainers* (Four Walls Eight Windows, $21.95), Fried, a TV writer and producer, recants the tales, primarily through second-hand sources, of legendary trainers Manny Seamon, Jack Blackburn, Charlie Goldman, Whitey Bimstein, Ray Arcel, Freddie Brown, Eddie Futch, Al Silvani, and Angelo Dundee.

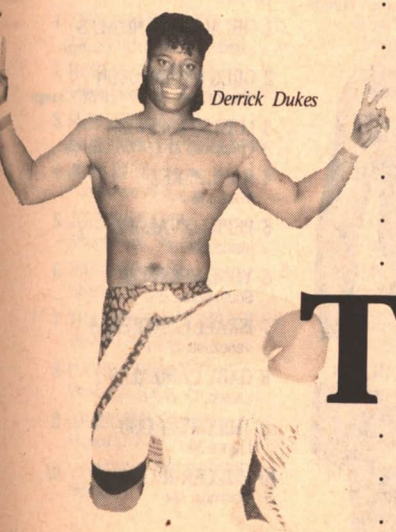
Anderson's *In The Corner: Great Boxing Trainers Talk About Their Art* (William Morrow, $20) profiles 12 active trainers, who tell their stories in first-person. Arcel, Dundee, and Futch are featured in this work as well, and, as a result, the same recollections are found in both books. Anderson, a sports columnist for *The New York Times*, also includes Lou Duva, George Benton, Richie Giachetti, Emanuel Steward, and Jackie McCoy.

Many of the personalities behind boxing's best fighters have been all but forgotten. For that reason, both of these books are must-reads.

—Ed Maloney

OUTSIDE THE ROPES

Former featherweight champion Barry McGuigan has offered to head a British boxers union . . . Ambrose Mendy, the manager of middleweight contender Nigel Benn, was sentenced to 2½ years in jail on two charges of conspiring to defraud companies of more than £650,000 . . . One year ago, 45-year-old Jerry Quarry aborted his ring comeback after brawling with his promoter and suffering a nine-stitch cut over his eye. Now Jerry's 40-year-old brother Mike, a light heavyweight contender 20 years ago, is planning to return as a cruiserweight. Quarry has been training in Los Angeles . . . Colorful publicist Harold Conrad died in Mexico at age 80. Conrad was a longtime member of the Muhammad Ali entourage, and, according to promoter Don King, "one of the last Damon Runyon guys we had left." . . . Two former heavyweight champions, Michael Dokes and John Tate, continue to have drug-related problems. In Las Vegas, Dokes pleaded guilty to being under the influence of cocaine, but only under the condition that should he be sent to prison, he may withdraw his plea and take his chances in a trial; in Knoxville, Tennessee, Tate received a two-year suspended sentence after pleading guilty to dealing cocaine. Tate was ordered to undergo alcohol treatment and random drug testing . . . In Boston, former middleweight champion Marvelous Marvin Hagler, convicted of assault and battery on a former girlfriend, was sentenced to one year of probation and ordered to perform 100 hours of community service.


Derrick Dukes

THE PUNCHLINE

An "Introducing" feature in the June 1989 issue of *The Wrestler* magazine profiled Derrick Dukes, who, in June, lasted 12 seconds as the designated victim in the pro boxing debut of former football star Mark Gastineau. After absorbing an innocent-looking right—or was it a left?—from Gastineau, Dukes went flying through the air and crashed to the canvas.

"I tried to think of new moves I've never seen before," he was quoted in *The Wrestler*, "quick, high-flying moves that would be effective and the fans would find exciting. I like to do the aerial stuff . . . " ■

The Ring Ratings

For Period Ended June 20, 1991

How Our Ratings Are Compiled

In each division, fighters are ranked according to their abilities and accomplishments.

Being champion does not necessarily mean a fighter will be rated at the top of his weight class.

These ratings reflect how the best fighters in the world rate against one another.

Records Compiled By Eric Armit

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight Unlimited

1 EVANDER HOLYFIELD
Atlanta, GA *25-0 (World Champ)*

2 MIKE TYSON
Catskill, NY *40-1*

3 RAZOR RUDDOCK
Canada *25-2-1*

4 RIDDICK BOWE
Brooklyn, NY *22-0*

5 TIM WITHERSPOON
Philadelphia, PA *34-3*

6 RAY MERCER
Union, NJ *17-0*

7 GEORGE FOREMAN
Marshall, TX *69-3*

8 TONY TUCKER
Beverly Hills, CA *41-1*

9 LENNOX LEWIS
England *15-0*

10 PIERRE COETZER
South Africa *36-2*

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 160 pounds

1 MIKE McCALLUM
Brooklyn, NY *40-1 (WBA Champ)*

2 JAMES TONEY
Ann Arbor, MI *26-0-1 (IBF Champ)*

3 JULIAN JACKSON
Virgin Islands *41-1 (WBC Champ)*

4 MICHAEL NUNN
Davenport, IA *36-1*

5 SUMBU KALAMBAY
Italy *51-5-1*

6 STEVE COLLINS
Brockton, MA *20-1*

7 CHRIS EUBANK
England *27-0*

8 MICHAEL WATSON
England *25-2-1*

9 NIGEL BENN
England *28-2*

10 REGGIE JOHNSON
Houston, TX *29-1-1*

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 154 pounds

1 TERRY NORRIS
Mission Valley, CA *28-3 (WBC Champ)*

2 GILBERT DELE
France *28-0-1 (WBA Champ)*

3 GIANFRANCO ROSI
Italy *51-3 (IBF Champ)*

4 JOHN DAVID JACKSON
Tucson, AZ *23-0*

5 JULIO CESAR VASQUEZ
Argentina *31-0*

6 JORGE CASTRO
Argentina *59-2-2*

7 TYRONE TRICE
Milwaukee, WI *38-3*

8 AARON DAVIS
Bronx, NY *32-1*

9 GLENN WOLFE
Miami, FL *27-1-1*

10 MARK BRELAND
Teaneck, NJ *29-2-1*

WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 147 pounds

1 MELDRICK TAYLOR
Cheltenham, PA *27-1-1 (WBA Champ)*

2 SIMON BROWN
Germantown, MD *34-1 (WBC Champ)*

3 BUDDY McGIRT
Brentwood, NY *53-2-1*

4 MAURICE BLOCKER
Germantown, MD *32-2*

5 GLENWOOD BROWN
Plainfield, NJ *33-1*

6 LONNIE SMITH
Denver, CO *29-2-1*

7 GENARO LEON
Mexico *37-2-2*

8 CRISANTO ESPANA
N. Ireland *23-0*

9 HIROYUKI YOSHINO
Japan *18-3-1*

10 SANTOS CARDONA
Puerto Rico *21-3*

JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 122 pounds

1 JESSE BENAVIDES
Corpus Christi, TX *34-1*

2 WELCOME NCITA
South Africa *29-0 (IBF Champ)*

3 LUIS MENDOZA
Colombia *32-2-2 (WBA Champ)*

4 DANIEL ZARAGOZA
Mexico *42-5-1 (WBC Champ)*

5 KIYOSHI HATANAKA
Japan *22-2-1*

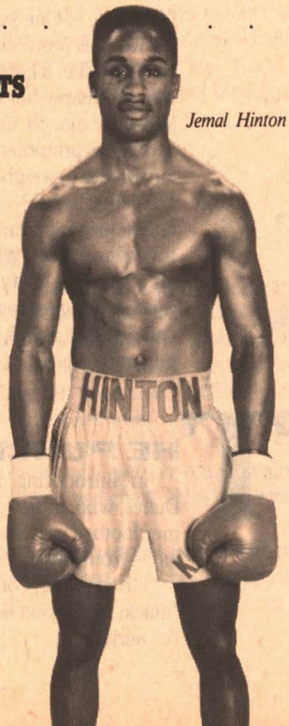
6 PEDRO DECIMA
Argentina *26-3*

7 JESUS SALUD
San Diego, CA *37-4*

8 TRACY PATTERSON
New Paltz, NY *41-2*

9 BABY SUGAR ROJAS
Colombia *34-4-1*

10 JEMAL HINTON
District Heights, MD *18-0*



Jemal Hinton

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 118 pounds

1 ORLANDO CANIZALES
Laredo, TX *28-1-1 (IBF Champ)*

2 GREG RICHARDSON
Youngstown, OH *29-3 (WBC Champ)*

3 LUISITO ESPINOSA
Philippines *25-5 (WBA Champ)*

4 RAUL PEREZ
Mexico *48-2-2*

5 PEPILLO VALDEZ
Mexico *39-3-1*

6 YONG HOON LEE
South Korea *18-0*

7 ISRAEL CONTRERAS
Venezuela *33-2-1*

8 GABY CANIZALES
Laredo, TX *49-7-1*

9 THIERRY JACOB
France *30-3*

10 ELIECER JULIO
Colombia *18-0*

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 195 pounds

1 **JEFF LAMPKIN**
Youngstown, OH *35-13-1 (IBF Champ)*

2 **BOBBY CZYZ**
Montgomery, NJ *38-5 (WBA Champ)*

3 **TAOUFIK BELBOULI**
France *29-1-1*

4 **ROBERT DANIELS**
Miami, FL *17-2-1*

5 **ALFRED COLE**
Newark, NJ *17-1*

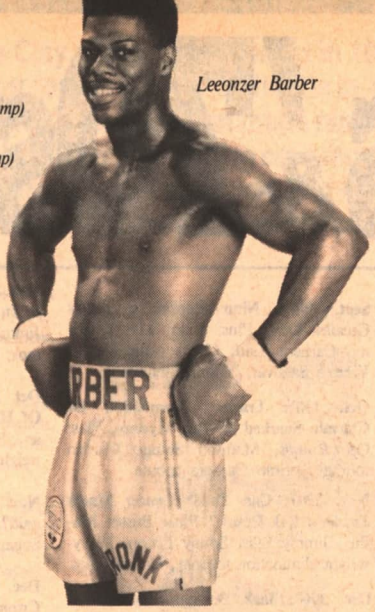
6 **MASSIMILIANO DURAN**
Italy *18-0 (WBC Champ)*

7 **ANACLET WAMBA**
France *29-2*

8 **JOHNNY NELSON**
England *21-5-1*

9 **DWIGHT QAWI**
Lindenwold, NJ *35-8-1*

10 **JAMES WARRING**
Miami, FL *11-1*



Leeonzer Barber

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 175 pounds

1 **THOMAS HEARNS**
Las Vegas, NV *50-3-1 (WBA Champ)*

2 **PRINCE CHARLES WILLIAMS**
Mansfield, OH *30-4-2 (IBF Champ)*

3 **VIRGIL HILL**
Las Vegas, NV *30-1*

4 **DENNIS ANDRIES**
Detroit, MI *39-8-2 (WBC Champ)*

5 **JEFF HARDING**
Australia *20-1*

6 **GRACIANO ROCCHIGIANI**
Germany *31-0*

7 **FRANK TATE**
Houston, TX *28-2*

8 **ANDREW MAYNARD**
Laurel, MD *17-1*

9 **ANTHONY HEMBRICK**
Beckley, WV *19-1-1*

10 **LEEONZER BARBER**
Detroit, MI *12-1*

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 168 pounds

1 **VICTOR CORDOVA**
Panama *15-2 (WBA Champ)*

2 **DARRIN VAN HORN**
Lexington, KY *46-2 (IBF Champ)*

3 **CHRISTOPHE TIOZZO**
France *28-1*

4 **LINDELL HOLMES**
Detroit, MI *44-6-1*

5 **TONY BYRD**
Los Angeles, CA *18-2-1*

6 **MAURO GALVANO**
Italy *16-1-2 (WBC Champ)*

7 **TONY THORNTON**
Glassboro, NJ *28-4-1*

8 **MERQUI SOSA**
New York, NY *19-2*

9 **JOHN JARVIS**
Richmond, VA *22-2*

10 **JAMES COOK**
England *17-8*

JR. WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 140 pounds

1 **JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ**
Mexico *75-0 (WBC Champ)*

2 **ROGER MAYWEATHER**
Las Vegas, NV *40-6*

3 **EDWIN ROSARIO**
Puerto Rico *37-4 (WBA Champ)*

4 **TERRENCE ALLI**
Linden, NJ *47-7-2*

5 **CHARLES MURRAY**
Essex County, NJ *21-1*

6 **HECTOR CAMACHO**
Big Cypress, FL *39-1*

7 **GREG HAUGEN**
Henderson, NV *28-4-1*

8 **LORETO GARZA**
Sacramento, CA *28-2-1*

9 **JUAN COGGI**
Argentina *49-2-2*

10 **PAT BARRETT**
England *30-1-1*

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 135 pounds

1 **PERNELL WHITAKER**
Norfolk, VA *25-1 (World Champ)*

2 **FREDDIE PENDLETON**
Miami, FL *30-17-3*

3 **JORGE PAEZ**
Mexico *39-3-4*

4 **TRACY SPANN**
Plainfield, NJ *26-1*

5 **JUAN NAZARIO**
Puerto Rico *22-3*

6 **POLI DIAZ**
Spain *30-0*

7 **ANTHONY JONES**
Detroit, MI *29-3-1*

8 **PEDRO SANCHEZ**
New York, NY *20-0-1*

9 **DARRYL TYSON**
Washington, D.C. *34-4*

10 **SHARMBA MITCHELL**
Takoma Park, MD *23-0*

JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 130 pounds

1 **AZUMAH NELSON**
Ghana *33-2 (WBC Champ)*

2 **TONY LOPEZ**
Sacramento, CA *36-2-1 (IBF Champ)*

3 **BRIAN MITCHELL**
South Africa *42-1-3*

4 **JEFF FENECH**
Australia *25-0*

5 **JOHN-JOHN MOLINA**
Puerto Rico *22-3*

6 **GENARO HERNANDEZ**
Los Angeles, CA *23-0*

7 **JOEY GAMACHE**
Lewiston, ME *24-0*

8 **JERRY NGOBENI**
South Africa *18-1*

9 **FRANKIE MITCHELL**
Philadelphia, PA *25-1*

10 **BERNARD TAYLOR**
Knoxville, TN *42-2-2*

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 126 pounds

1 **MARCOS VILLASANA**
Mexico *52-7-2 (WBC Champ)*

2 **TROY DORSEY**
Mansfield, TX *13-3-4 (IBF Champ)*

3 **YUNG KYUN PARK**
South Korea *19-1-1 (WBA Champ)*

4 **LOUIE ESPINOZA**
Phoenix, AZ *41-4-2*

5 **ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA**
Venezuela *30-2-4*

6 **MAURIZIO STECCA**
Italy *43-1*

7 **RICARDO CEPEDA**
Bronx, NY *22-0-1*

8 **RAFAEL RUELAS**
Arleta, CA *26-0*

9 **ELOY ROJAS**
Venezuela *21-0*

10 **TOM JOHNSON**
Detroit, MI *24-1-1*

Troy Dorsey

JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 115 pounds

1 **KHAOSAI GALAXY**
Thailand *47-1 (WBA Champ)*

2 **ROBERT QUIROGA**
San Antonio, TX *18-0 (IBF Champ)*

3 **SUNG KIL MOON**
South Korea *14-1 (WBC Champ)*

4 **JOSE RUIZ**
Puerto Rico *20-2*

5 **JOHNNY TAPIA**
Albuquerque, NM *21-0-1*

6 **NANA KONADU**
Ghana *19-2-1*

7 **THALERNSAK SITHBAOBEY**
Thailand *34-2*

8 **DAVID GRIMAN**
Venezuela *11-0*

9 **ARMANDO CASTRO**
Mexico *41-8-1*

10 **VINCENZO BELCASTRO**
Italy *20-5-3*

FLYWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 112 pounds

1 **MUANGCHAI KITTIKASEM**
Thailand *14-1 (WBC Champ)*

2 **DAVE McAULEY**
Ireland *17-2-2 (IBF Champ)*

3 **YONG KANG KIM**
South Korea *23-3 (WBA Champ)*

4 **ELVIS ALVAREZ**
Colombia *21-3-1*

5 **SOT CHITALADA**
Thailand *23-3-1*

6 **JUNG KOO CHANG**
South Korea *38-4*

7 **RODOLFO BLANCO**
Colombia *26-6-1*

8 **YURI ARBACHAKOV**
Soviet Union *7-0*

9 **YUN UN CHIN**
South Korea *24-0*

10 **YSAIAS ZAMUDIO**
Blythe, CA *23-3-1*

JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 108 pounds

1 **MYUNG WOO YUH**
South Korea *36-0 (WBA Champ)*

2 **MICHAEL CARBAJAL**
Phoenix, AZ *20-0 (IBF Champ)*

3 **HUMBERTO GONZALEZ**
Mexico *31-1 (WBC Champ)*

4 **MELCHOR COB CASTRO**
Mexico *29-3-3*

5 **ROLANDO PASCUA**
Philippines *25-6*

6 **HIROKI IOKA**
Japan *17-2-1*

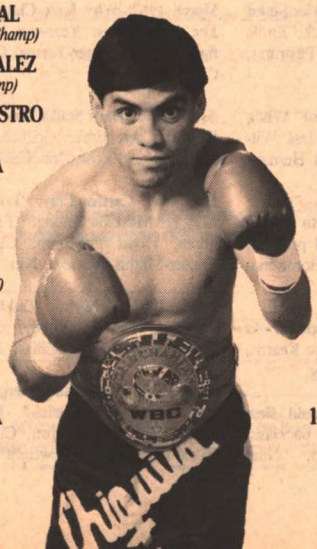
7 **DOMINGO SOSA**
Dominican Republic *16-0*

8 **LEON SALAZAR**
Panama *15-3-1*

9 **JERRY PENALOSA**
Philippines *12-0-1*

10 **ROBINSON CUESTA**
Panama *6-0*

Humberto Gonzalez



POUND FOR POUND
Boxing's 10 Best Fighters, Pound For Pound

1 **JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ**
Junior Welterweight

2 **PERNELL WHITAKER**
Lightweight

3 **MELDRICK TAYLOR**
Welterweight

4 **EVANDER HOLYFIELD**
Heavyweight

5 **MIKE TYSON**
Heavyweight

6 **MYUNG WOO YUH**
Light Flyweight

7 **ORLANDO CANIZALES**
Bantamweight

8 **KHAOSAI GALAXY**
Junior Bantamweight

9 **SIMON BROWN**
Welterweight

10 **TERRY NORRIS**
Junior Middleweight

The RING '60s & '70s ISSUES

ONLY $10 EACH

Oct. 1961: Boxing Series—Phony? Plus: Gene Fullmer, famous fights recalled, Cassius Clay, Harry Greb, Dick Tiger, Floyd Patterson.

May 1963: Las Vegas—The New Capital. Plus: Jose Torres, Gus Lesnevich, Floyd Patterson, Sonny Liston, Cassius Clay, Luis Rodriguez, Tiger-Fullmer.

July 1963: Carlos Ortiz: "Vacate My Title?" Plus: Gene Fullmer, the flaw in Cassius Clay, Liston-Patterson II prefight, Paul Pender, Willie Pastrano.

Aug. 1963: Three Big Championship Fights (Pastrano-Johnson, Griffith-Rodriguez, Perkins-Cruz). Plus: Mike Jacobs, sour decisions, Rubin Carter, Liston-Patterson II preview, Jack Root.

Jan. 1964: Joey Archer: Boxing's Greatest Hero. Plus: Cassius Clay, Dempsey vs. Schmeling, Dempsey vs. Baer, Cleveland Williams, Ingemar Johansson.

June 1964: Joey Giardello: "I'm Young Again!" Plus: Cassius Clay, Floyd Patterson, Willie Pastrano, Carlos Ortiz.

July 1964: Will Bobo Olson Win Title? Plus: Polo Grounds, Cassius Clay, Willie Pastrano, Sugar Ramos.

Aug. 1964: Who Is Floyd Robertson? Plus: Max Schmeling, Griffith-Rodriguez, Dick Tiger, Olympic preview, Joey Giardello, Sonny Liston.

Sept. 1964: The Perils Of Patterson! Plus: Cleveland Williams, Laszlo Papp, Jose Stable, Carlos Ortiz.

Oct. 1964: Liston Couldn't Be Sidetracked. Plus: TV boxing, Dick Tiger, Persol-Olson, Jesus Pimental.

Feb. 1965: Where Do Our Heavies Stand Now? Plus: James J. Braddock, Emile Griffith, Jose Torres, Willie Pastrano, Oscar Bonavena, Eder Jofre.

April 1965: Clay Clamors For White Hopes. Plus: Jack Dempsey, Jess Willard, Patterson-Chuvalo, Carlos Hernandez, Tony Galento, Joe Louis.

July 1965: Jose Torres, Puerto Rico's New Hero. Plus: Clay-Liston II prefight, Gene Tunney, Joey Giardello, Bonavena-Folley, George Chuvalo.

Aug. 1965: What Really Happened At Lewiston? Plus: Dick Tiger, Doc Kearns, Laguna-Ortiz, Patterson-Herring.

Sept. 1965: Walcott: Clay Could Beat Dempsey! Plus: Ali-Liston II backlash, Henry Hank, Willie Pep, Nino Benvenuti.

Oct. 1965: Will $$$ Still Lure Wilt? Plus: Jose Torres, Floyd Patterson, Joe Frazier, four ring hopefuls, Billy Conn, Liston-Clay, Flash Elorde.

Nov. 1965: Giardello Title Tenure Over? Plus: History of middleweights, heavyweight situation, Johnny Persol, Luis Rodriguez, Mathis & Frazier's pro debuts.

Dec. 1965: Experts Pick Clay vs. Patterson. Plus: Jose Torres, Sonny Liston, Joey Archer, Oscar Bonavena, Vicente Saldivar.

Jan. 1966: Explosion!!! Four Title Fights!!! Plus: Dick Tiger, Cassius Clay, Ernie Terrell, George Chuvalo.

April 1966: Who Has The Best Style To Beat Clay? Plus: Buster Mathis, Ernie Terrell, Marcel Cerdan, Dick Tiger, Rubin Carter, Carlos Ortiz.

May 1966: Who Will Tame Dick Tiger? Clay-Terrell preview, James Norris, Emile Griffith, Vicente Saldivar.

Aug. 1966: "I Will Retire Unbeaten!" Says Clay. Plus: Jose Torres, Randy Turpin, Karl Mildenberger, Clay-Cooper II, Emile Griffith, Harada-Jofre.

Sept. 1966: France Claims Its First Welter Title. Plus: Ernie Terrell, Nino Benvenuti, U.S. vs. Britain.

Oct. 1966: How Did Mildenberger Get There? Plus: Clay-London, Clay draft appeal, Sonny Liston, Louis-Schmeling I, Griffith-Archer, Joe Frazier.

Jan. 1967: Is Time Running Out On Terrell? Plus: Torres-Tiger preview, long count mystery solved, Carlos Ortiz, Cassius Clay, Zora Folley, Johnny Persol.

March 1967: Why Isn't Clay Fighter Of The Year? Plus: Year-end issue, 2,500 fighters rated, Tiger-Torres, Clay-Terrell, Curtis Cokes.

April 1967: Death Stalks The Tiger. Plus: Cassius Clay, Emile Griffith, Mike Jacobs, Barney Ross, Joe Clark.

May 1967: Cassius Clay: "Louis Clobber Me? He Must Be Joking!" Plus: Frazier-Jones, Floyd Patterson, Carlos Ortiz, Frazier-Mathis preview, Nino Benvenuti.

June 1967: They're Talking Frazier Now!!! Plus: Ali-Folley, Joe Louis, Ismael Laguna, Clay-Ellis?, Joe Gans.

Aug. 1967: Karl Mildenberger: Germany's Second Schmeling? Plus: Nino Benvenuti, Foster-Cotton, Curtis Cokes, Tiger-Torres II, heavyweight analysis.

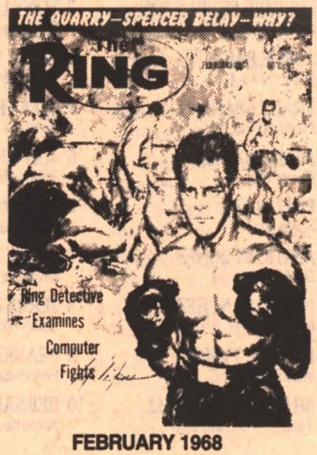
Sept. 1967: Nino Benvenuti: Italy's Greatest Ever? Plus: Sonny Liston, Primo Carnera dead, Clay's court battles, Vicente Saldivar, Yoshiaki Numata.

Oct. 1967: Frazier's Demolition Of Chuvalo Sparked Ice Bag Mystery. Plus: Ortiz-Ramos, Madison Square Garden tourney, Primo Carnera tribute.

Nov. 1967: Can Thad Spencer Match Frazier's KO Punch? Plus: Buster Mathis, Jimmy Ellis, Sonny Liston, heavyweight elimination tourney, Carlos Ortiz.

Dec. 1967: Jack Dempsey Picks Next Heavyweight Champion. Plus: Griffith-Benvenuti II, Joe Frazier, Gans-McGovern controversy, Buster Mathis.

Jan. 1968: Corbett-Dempsey Computer Fight. Plus: Joe Frazier, Jerry Quarry, Jimmy Ellis, Thad Spencer, Vicente Saldivar retires.



FEBRUARY 1968

Feb. 1968: The Quarry-Spencer Delay—Why? Plus: Bob Foster, Buster Mathis, Rocky Marciano, Jimmy Ellis, Dick Tiger, all-time heavyweight tournament.

March 1968: Joe Frazier: Fighter Of The Year (96-Page Special). Plus: Year-end awards, Ali's legal problems, Joe Frazier, Jimmy Ellis, Rocky Marciano, James J. Jeffries, Jack Johnson.

April 1968: Spectre Of Clay Haunts Heavy Situation (painting by LeRoy Neiman) Plus: Transcript of Clay trial, Rocky Marciano, Ingemar Johansson, Bob Foster, Jerry Quarry.

May 1968: Quarry Revives White Hope Cry!!! Plus: Frazier-Mathis, Jimmy Ellis, Joe Frazier, Dick Tiger, Bob Foster, Nino Benvenuti.

June 1968: Boone Kirkman: Heavyweight Threat. Plus: Ken Buchanan, Sonny Liston, Ernie Terrell, southpaws, Nino Benvenuti & Frank Sinatra.

July 1968: Sonny Liston: Secret Story. Plus: Curtis Cokes, Sugar Ray Robinson, Joe Louis, Jose Torres, Henry Armstrong, Frazier-Ellis?, Bob Foster.

Sept. 1968: Foster: "I'm The Best Fighter In The World." Plus: Joe Frazier, Jimmy Ellis, Jack Dempsey, Manuel Ramos, Ortiz-Cruz, heavyweight enigmas.

Oct. 1968: Olympics Beckon To Seekers Of Heavyweight Riches. Plus: Joe Frazier, Sonny Liston, Joe Louis, middleweights, Buster Mathis.

Nov. 1968: Are Today's Fighters Overpaid? Plus: Joey Archer, Emile Griffith, Sugar Ray Robinson, Fritzie Zivic.

Dec. 1968: Is World Boxing Association Crumbling? Plus: Ellis-Patterson, George Chuvalo, Kid Gavilan, Bob Foster.

Jan. 1969: Jack Johnson, Faker Or Loser? Plus: Jess Willard, Jack Johnson, all-time middleweight tournament, George Foreman, Dick Tiger, Doyle Baird.

Feb. 1969: How Good Is Olympic Champ Foreman? Plus: Floyd Patterson, Emile Griffith, Freddie Little, George Chuvalo, Hall of Fame (Baer, O'Brien, Hyer), Lou Brouillard.

March 1969: Nino Benvenuti: Fighter Of The Year (96-Page Special). Plus: Year-end awards, greatest in each division, Jess Willard's death, Frazier-Bonavena, Liston-Lincoln.

April 1969: Controversy Rages: Ketchel Or Robinson? Plus: Ken Buchanan, Joe Frazier, Jimmy Ellis, Bob Foster, computer fights, Buster Mathis.

May 1969: Frazier-Ellis—A Knockout For 1969! Plus: Mando Ramos, Bob Foster, cornermen, Marty Servo.

June 1969: Do Women Really Rule Boxing? Plus: Mando Ramos, trainers, Cassius Clay, Jerry Quarry, knockdown rule.

Oct. 1969: "How I'll Win" by Joe Frazier & Jimmy Ellis. Plus: What's next for Clay, Joe Bugner, Jack Dempsey, Joe Louis, Mac Foster, Vicente Saldivar.

Nov. 1969: How Much Has Aging Liston Left? Plus: Ruben Olivares, Tommy Walsh, Battling Levinsky, referees.

Dec. 1969: Was Marciano Greatest Heavyweight? Plus: Mexican champs, Joe Louis, Jerry Quarry, Sonny Liston, Tom Bogs.

Feb. 1970: Computer Controversy—Clay Or Marciano? Plus: Nino Benvenuti, Dick Tiger, Mike Quarry, Carlos Ortiz, Foreman-Davila, Johnny Griffin.

June 1970: Stars Warn Frazier On His Future! Plus: Willie Pep, Bethea-Benvenuti, Ken Buchanan, Joe Frazier.

Nov. 1970: Is George Foreman For Real? Plus: Foreman-Chuvalo, British fighters, Randy Turpin, Tommy Farr.

Dec. 1970: Frazier's Title In Jeopardy? Plus: Patterson-Green, Bob Foster, Frazier-Foreman preview, Schmeling-Sharkey.

When Cassius Clay made his pro debut in 1960, *The Ring* was there. When "The Greatest" fought Joe Frazier for the heavyweight title in 1971, *The Ring* was there. Before Carlos Monzon, Jose Napoles, and Roberto Duran made names for themselves, the readers of *The Ring* were already talking about them. *The Ring* covered all the boxing events and personalities of the '60s and '70s as no other magazine could—and now a limited supply of back issues from those two decades are available for $10 each (including postage and handling).

July 1971: Is George Foreman Next Champ? Plus: Frazier-Clay, Olivares-Castillo, 105 rounds of mayhem, Nicolino Loche, Foster-Anderson.

Aug. 1971: Nino's Kayo—U.S. Judge Tells All! Plus: Wilt Chamberlain, Monzon-Benvenuti II, Adolph Pruitt, Napoles-Backus II, Denny McNamee.

Nov. 1971: Gene Tunney Finally Talks: On Clay, Frazier, Dempsey! Plus: Jose Napoles, Al Silvani, Clay-Frazier II?, Cus D'Amato, Marcano-Kobayashi, Ezzard Charles, Ruben Navarro.

Dec. 1971: Buchanan No. 1 In Fistic Cleverness? Plus: Monzon-Griffith I, Joe Bugner, Tommy Burns, Buchanan-Duran?, New York Boxing, Bodell-Bugner, "Halimi" Gutierrez.

April 1972: Is Frazier-Clay Rematch Off? Plus: Frazier-Daniels, Clay-Blin, Hall Of Fame (Graziano, Saddler, Berlenbach, Clark, Flowers), Armando Muniz, Pascual Perez, Griffith rates Monzon, fights that never came off, Tito Lectoure.

Jan. 1973: Big Heavyweight Shakeup! Plus: Lyle-Mathis, Bugner-Blin, Griffith-DeNucci, WBA, Jack Sharkey, the man who stopped Ali, Bennie Briscoe, Ray Lampkin, Kid Chocolate, Ernie Terrell, Walter Seeley, Chacon-Reyes.

Feb. 1973: Is Heavyweight Ron Lyle For Real? Plus: Ali-Foster, Duran-DeJesus I, Monzon-Briscoe II, Danny Lopez, Antonio Cervantes, Frazier-Foreman preview.

April 1973: Is Champ Foreman For Real? Plus: Foreman-Frazier I, Rudiger Schmidke, Hall Of Fame (Rosenbloom, Zivic, Jack, Papke, LaBarba), Sugar Ray Seales, Rodolfo Gonzalez.

Aug. 1973: Joe Frazier: "I Will Beat Foreman Or Quit!" Plus: Ruben Olivares, Bobby Chacon, Carol Polis, Monzon-Griffith II, Vito Antuofermo, Herrera-Martinez, Lopez-Ordunez.

Oct. 1973: The Private Life Of George Foreman Plus: Carlos Monzon, WBA/WBC, Frazier-Bugner, George Foreman, DeJesus-Lampkin II.

Nov. 1973: World Title Fight Barrage! Plus: Foreman-Roman, Foster-Fourie, Joe Bugner, Gentleman Jim Corbett, Harry Greb, Anaya-Pinder, Henry Nissen, Muniz-Lopez.

Dec. 1974: Inside Story From Zaire! Plus: Foreman-Ali postponement, Bob Foster's retirement, Teofilo Stevenson, Chacon-Marcano, Roberto Duran, Jimmy Wilde & Barney Ross.

April 1975: Chuck Wepner Story: A Tale Out Of Fiction. Plus: Joe Louis, Redd Foxx, Hall of Fame (Curtis, Fullmer, Tiger, Klaus, Chaney), Alexis Arguello, Marvin Hagler, Chacon-Lopez, Ali-Foreman II?, Miguel Canto.

SEPT.-OCT.1975

Sept.-Oct. 1975: Is Ali Punch Fact Or Fiction? Plus: Don King, Ali-Bugner II, Monzon-Licata, Duran-Peterson, Olivares-Chacon, Galindez-Ahumada, Monroe-Hart, Ezzard Charles dies.

Aug. 1976: First American To Hold Word Title In Each Division. Plus: John L. Sullivan, Ali-Dunn, DeJesus-Suzuki, Zarate-Martinez, Foster's comeback, Duran-Mamby, Lopez-Gomez.

Sept. 1976: Ali-Norton: Special Heavyweight Issue! Plus: Vonzell Johnson, Palomino-Stracey, Galindez-Kates, Foreman-Frazier II, Arguello-Torres, Oscar Bonavena's death.

June 1977: What Now, George Foreman? Plus: Marvis Frazier, Carlos Palomino, Harold Weston, Antuofermo-Hart, Lyle-Bugner, Gazo-Castellini, Conteh-Hutchins, the comeback of George Chuvalo, Jimmy Young, Hagler-Monroe.

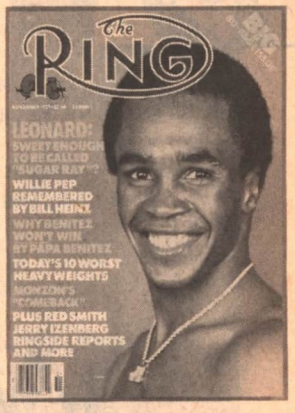
Sept. 1977: Norton-Young: Winner To Fight Ali! Plus: Sugar Ray Leonard, Michael and Leon Spinks, John Tate, Palomino-Green, Galindez-Kates II, Wilfredo Gomez, Irish-American fighters.

Feb. 1978: Exclusive Coverage: Norton vs. Young. Plus: Galindez-Gregory, Saensak Muangsurin, Leon Spinks, Matt Franklin, Valdes-Briscoe, heavyweight comebacks, Jerry Quarry, Ray Leonard, Carlos Zarate

July 1979: Foreman Exclusive: Preach Or Punch? Plus: Mike Weaver, Jack Sharkey, Galindez-Rossman II, Franklin-Johnson II, Jorge Lujan, Watt-Pitalua, Chacon-Limon II, Conteh-Burnett, Leonard-Viruet, federal commission?

Aug. 1979: Fights You Want To See! Plus: Leonard-Geraldo, Hearns-Weston, Ron Lyle, James Scott, Jeff Chandler, Davey Moore, Scandinavian fighters, big-fight previews.

Sept. 1979: Is Holmes Ali's Successor? Plus: Holmes-Weaver, Duran-Palomino, Lopez-Ayala, Coetzee-Spinks, Pintor-Zarate, Tate-Knoetze, Kim-Guisseppi, Lopez-Ayala, Gomez-Hernandez, German greats, Rocky II.



NOVEMBER 1979

Nov. 1979: Leonard: Sweet Enough To Be Called "Sugar Ray"? Plus: Wilfred Benitez, Willie Pep, 10 worst heavyweights, Monzon comback?, Cuevas-Shields, Leonard-Ranzany, Muhammad-Conteh, Hilmer Kenty.

Dec. 1979: What's Next For Larry Holmes? Plus: Holmes-Shavers II, Pipino Cuevas, Thomas Hearns, Arum & King, Leonard-Price, Gomez-Mendoza.

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☐ May/63	☐ Oct/65	☐ Aug/67	☐ Nov/68	☐ Dec/70	☐ Sep-Oct/75
☐ Jul/63	☐ Nov/65	☐ Sep/67	☐ Dec/68	☐ Jul/71	☐ Aug/76
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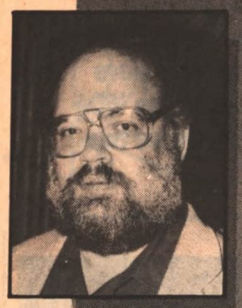


Katz Scan

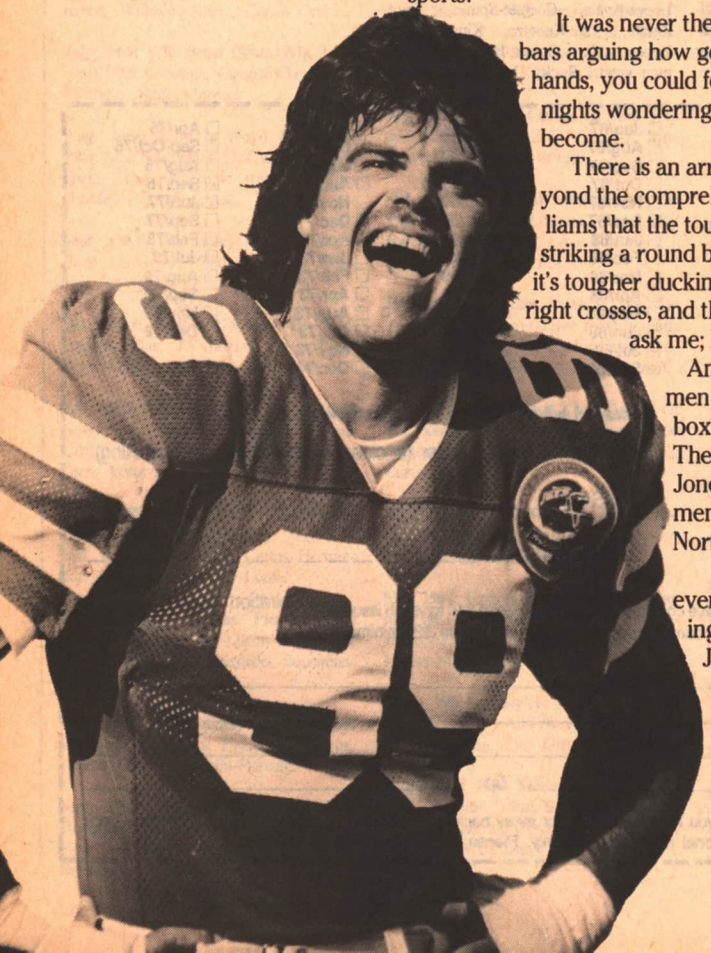
By Michael Katz

APPLES, ORANGES, AND CHECKERS

Who among us hasn't wanted to mix apples and oranges? It's as American as orange pie to fantasize how an honest rassler might fare against a washed- up hot dog from football. The Mark Gastineau travesty need not concern us. It was the thought that counted, not the apparent perversion that would make the thought easier to peddle. The wonderment was still to see what would happen if we took our heroes out of context, if we lifted them from the familiar playing fields and dropped them onto strange turf.

Bo knew. That was the underlying romanticism beneath all the commercials. Bo was mixing national pastimes, and I cannot be alone in wondering just how far he would go. What if Bo did know boxing? After watching him break a bat over his head, I wanted to see him challenge Mike Tyson, and not in a 40-yard dash.

It's always been one of our favorite intrigues. Wilt Chamberlain or Jim Brown vs. Muhammad Ali. How would great athletes fare in the most primitive and direct of sports?



It was never the other way around. Not too many of us sat around bars arguing how good a tight end Ali would be. ("Why, if he had good hands, you could forget about John Mackey . . . ") We did not stay up nights wondering what kind of point guard Joe Louis might have become.

There is an arrogance that the games other athletes play are beyond the comprehension of a simple fighter. Go argue with Ted Williams that the toughest thing in sports is not taking a round bat and striking a round ball traveling at 95 miles per hour. Then again, maybe it's tougher ducking a jab after you've already been hit with a couple of right crosses, and the top of the world isn't screwed on anymore. Don't ask me; I have trouble with door knobs.

And maybe don't ask the counterpunchers, the boxing men who scoff at the idea that an athlete can move into boxing and take over by the sheer dint of physical ability. They laugh and point to the flops of football's "Too Tall" Jones and Lyle Alzado and forget that many of our big men came into boxing late and after other sports—Ken Norton, Tim Witherspoon, Bonecrusher Smith.

I think it can be done. A good apple can taste sweet even in a crate of oranges. This is hardly original thinking. A few of us were sitting around the lounge with Jim Jacobs a few days before Mike Tyson was to fight for his first heavyweight title, against Trevor Berbick. Being polite, we assumed Tyson would win and

Can a football player find happiness in pro boxing? Former defensive lineman Mark Gastineau is currently seeking the answer.

asked Jacobs where future opponents would come from. We figured it would take Tyson a few fights and he would be out of opponents.

"Cus and I always felt there could be a big-money fight against an athlete," said Jacobs, invoking the name of Cus D'Amato.

D'Amato not only wanted to train Wilt Chamberlain against Ali, he had in fact trained Jacobs, a truly great handball player, for a fight against light heavyweight champion Archie Moore.

"It was Cus' theory," said Jacobs, "that you don't have to teach a great athlete everything about boxing, that all you have to teach him is how to win *one* fight against *one* particular fighter."

(Jacobs never got in the ring with Moore. "The Mongoose" turned the bout down, saying he didn't want to risk hurting an old friend—or risk embarrassing himself by *losing* to an old friend.)

Basketball star Wilt Chamberlain may have been the only athlete who had a bigger ego than Muhammad Ali. Chamberlain thought be could defeat "The Greatest," but they never fought.

Football players use boxing as a ploy to get better contracts. But they can indeed make the jump. And it need not be a one-shot deal. Hitting the curve is not as natural an act as hitting another man. That's human nature. What kid hasn't had a few fights? There is nothing strange and mysterious about boxing, the way some trainers would have us believe. It can be learned by athletes, even by athletes who went to college, though maybe Gastineau would be a poor example.

"Sometimes," said the scholar from East Central Oklahoma State, "it amazes me how much there is to boxing. You've got to be smart to be a boxer."

Once I suggested to Larry Holmes that boxing must be like playing chess, all the planning ahead, the setting of subtle traps.

"More like checkers," he said. "It's much faster than chess."

In a sense, there is no time to think. A fighter must often rely on his instincts and his experience for his reactions. That's where the Gastineaus will have their biggest problems.

Gastineau should not be the yardstick. He's 34, and emotionally insecure, and the chances are he will be lucky to secure one nice payday.

Jimmy Glenn, his trainer, operates the Times Square Gym, where Too Tall Jones held his secret workouts. As a result, he was privvy to the game plan of Jones' manager, Dave Wolf. Wolf now acknowledges that by opting for the quick buck and national TV exposure in Too Tall's pro debut, he just about killed the project before it got started. Jones, who had some real boxing talent, was not ready for prime time, and the early exposure made him a laughingstock.

Glenn wanted to take Gastineau out of town, out of the picture, and get him some experience before exposing him. But the pro wrestler hired as the opponent, and his too-perfect tumbling act, did it anyway.

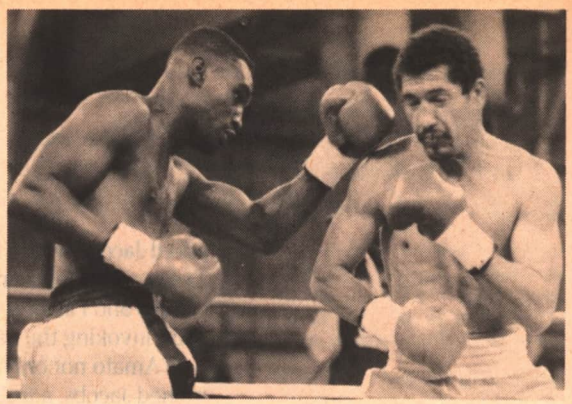
Gastineau has some interesting observations, though. He said it took him two years to become comfortable with the kind of running needed in boxing. In football, where quickness is the goal and the 40-yard dash the standard, it is considered punishment to ask players to run a half-mile. After two years, Gastineau said he could now run six miles in the morning without discomfort.

As natural as fighting is to most red-blooded youngsters, the precise punches of boxing must be learned. Growing up, Gastineau was never a boxing fan. But somewhere out there, a Jose Canseco or Ben Johnson or Lawrence Taylor or Patrick Ewing grew up idolizing Ali and Sugar Ray Leonard and Marvin Hagler. And somewhere out there, an agent is looking at the pay-per-view TV numbers, and, with visions of $25-million paydays, is planting seeds in a mind.

Somewhere out there, a star is waiting to be reborn. ■

New Faces

By Jody Schwartz



Ellis pounds on Lizarraga

Romallis Ellis

Junior Welterweight

A fighter competing in the Olympics usually travels a fast road to fame and fortune. Olympic champions like Sugar Ray Leonard, Meldrick Taylor, and Mark Breland were household names before they made their professional debuts. An Olympic medal was even enough to get Leon Spinks a shot at the heavyweight championship after only seven pro fights. But for undefeated junior welterweight Romallis Ellis, a place on the 1988 Olympic team has served only to pave the way to disappointment.

Ellis, 25, won a bronze medal in Seoul and has remained undefeated in 16 pro fights. But he continues to fight on undercards—and off television.

"It comes down to the fact that I don't have a promoter," Ellis lamented. "Main Events has been getting me fights, but I'm not under contract with them, so they don't do much else for me."

Main Events, the promotional firm headed by Dan Duva, has been responsible for putting Ellis in the ring. But the Georgia native does have a manager of record. That manager also happens to be the heavyweight champion of the world.

According to Ellis, Main Events has been finding him opponents at the request of Evander Holyfield.

Despite his frustrations, Ellis has kept focused on his career.

"I'm a boxer-puncher type fighter," he says. "I have a Tommy Hearns type of style. I use my reach to set my opponents up for the knockout."

Ellis' biggest win was a unanimous decision over Marco Lizarraga. The Mexican, who was ranked in the top 12, represented Ellis' first outing against a contender. It was also the Olympian's first time going 10 rounds.

PROFESSIONAL RECORD

1989

Feb 18	Albert Clowney, Hampton, VA	KO 1
March 11	Herman Cortez, Las Vegas	KO 4
April 30	Ric Stinnie, Norfolk, VA	KO 2
June 19	Antonio Carter, Metairie, LA	W 6
Aug. 20	Marvin Ladson, Norfolk	KO 3
Sept. 11	Tony King, Atlantic City	KO 2
Nov. 4	Junior Rodrigues, Atlantic City	KO 2
Dec. 26	Kenneth Kidd, Memphis	W 8

1990

March 17	Jorge Rivera, Las Vegas	KO 3
June 30	Paul Gentry, Atlanta	KO 4
Aug. 11	Miguel Torres, Las Vegas	KO 6
Aug. 25	Dwayne Brooks, Smyrna, GA	KO 2
Oct. 10	Darrin Neal, Lake Charles, LA	KO 3
Nov. 10	Jackie Bedwell, Smyrna, TN	KO 1
Dec. 20	Robert Dixon, Decatur, GA	KO 4

1991

Feb. 23	Marco Lizarraga, Las Vegas	W 10

RECORD:	FIGHTS	WON	LOST	DREW	KO
	16	16	0	0	13

"He was tough," Ellis recalls. "I just boxed him for the whole fight. He wasn't there to fall. He wanted to win as badly as I did."

The Lizarraga fight secured Ellis a number-nine ranking in the IBF. (He's rated 11th by the WBA and 20th by the WBC.) But it was witnessed only by the fans in attendance at Caesars Palace. While Ellis was fighting, HBO's cameras were zooming in on announcers Larry Merchant, Jim Lampley, and George Foreman, who were preparing for the main event of Hector Camacho-Greg Haugen.

With 10 tough rounds in the bank, Ellis now dares to look far into the future.

"I want to fight Edwin Rosario first," he said of the WBA junior welterweight champion. "I'd outbox him. He only knows one style. After that, Hector Camacho, and then the big match with Julio Cesar Chavez."

Any one of those fights would at the very least earn Ellis the largest payday of his career. (His current high is $10,000.) The fighter realizes, however, that before he can step into the ring with opponents of his choice, he has to choose handlers who will be waiting for him when he steps out. He is currently seeking a full-time promoter, someone who will work to move his name from the bottom of the marquee to the top.

"It doesn't bother me to see my Olympic teammates do well," Ellis said. "I just want my chance, too. It hurts me that because I don't have a promoter, I get put on the undercards."

While Riddick Bowe jabs before a national TV audience, Michael Carbajal attempts to become the first million-dollar flyweight, and Ray Mercer punches for kayos in big-money pay-per-view shows, Ellis waits for his chance to be seen. An Olympic medal, he has learned, guarantees nothing at all. ■

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BATTLING LEVINSKY: HE FOUGHT THREE TIMES IN ONE DAY

By Ronald K. Fried

If Pernell Whitaker or any of today's champions fight three times this year, no one will accuse them of being inactive. But if Whitaker fights three times in three different locations in one day, like Battling Levinsky did back on New Year's Day, 1915, every boxing writer in the country will rudely advise him to see a good psychiatrist.

Levinsky, the light heavyweight champion whose taste for combat might have been called compulsive, defied today's notions of what the human body can endure. In a career that lasted from 1910 through 1929—including a four-year retirement that began in 1922—Levinsky had a total of 274 bouts, according to *The Ring Record Book*. Other sources credit him with as many as 500 bouts.

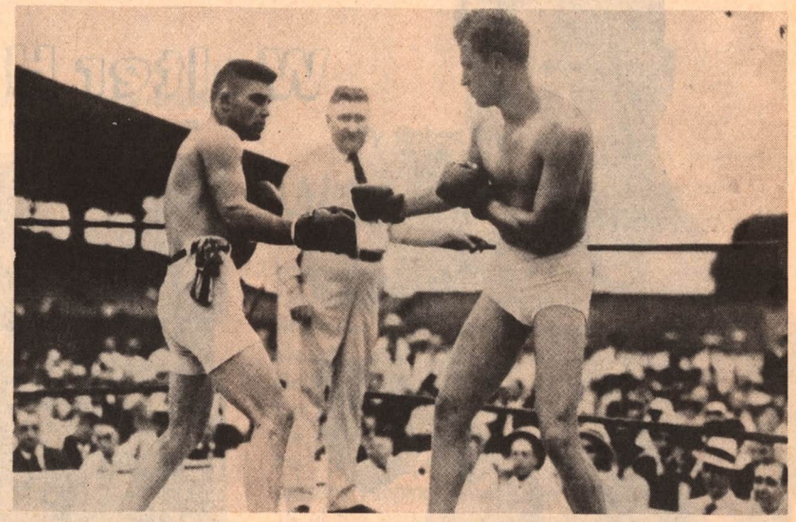
"I certainly did enjoy the fight game when I was a kid," a characteristically high-spirited Levinsky once told *The Ring*. "Gosh, how I used to fight. Twice, three times, sometimes four bouts a week."

And Levinsky's opponents were hardly tomato cans. Though he usually weighed in under the light heavyweight limit, he often faced such tough White Hope heavyweights as Fireman Jim Flynn and Gunboat Smith, as well as men his own size, like Jack Dillon and Harry Greb. As Damon Runyon wrote, "Large, tall, heavy men [were] manifestly Levinsky's favorite dish."

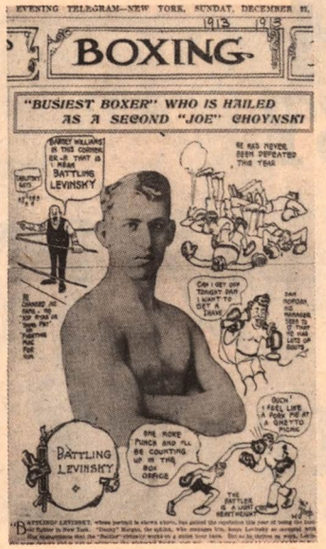
(Continued on page 74)

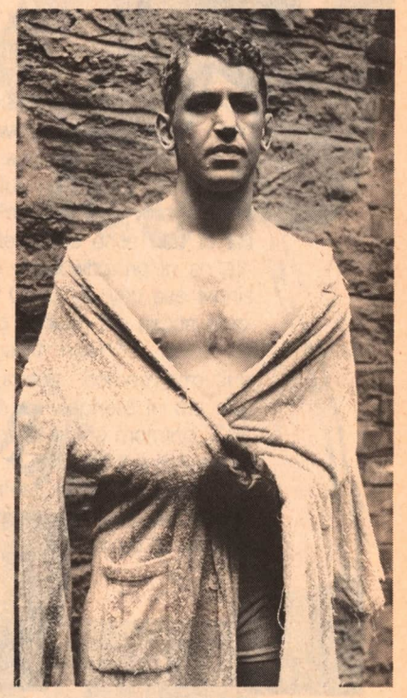
Levinsky fought about 300 fights in his remarkable 23-year career. He proved to be competitive with legendary champions such as Jack Dempsey, Gene Tunney, Harry Greb, Georges Carpentier, and a host of others. And he reigned as world light heavyweight champion for four riotous years. When the Battler was elected into The Ring's Hall of Fame in 1966, Dempsey commented, "No fighter ever deserved the honor more than Levinsky." After retiring from the ring in 1929, Levinsky and his wife sailed for a European vacation (above). It was well deserved.

"I Never Did Believe In Loafing"



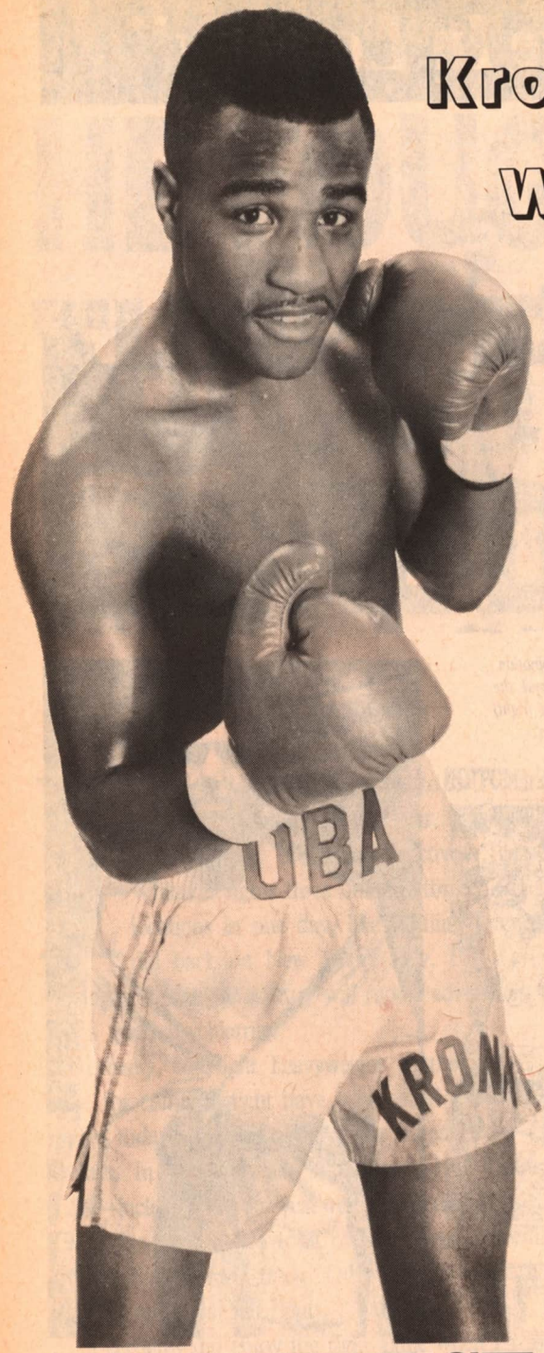
Above left: "Dumb" Dan Morgan and Levinsky formed the perfect combination. The keys to the team's success were Levinsky's ability and courage, and the incredible feats dreamed up by his fearless manager. Above right: Levinsky (right) and Jack Dillon square off before their 1916 light heavyweight title fight.



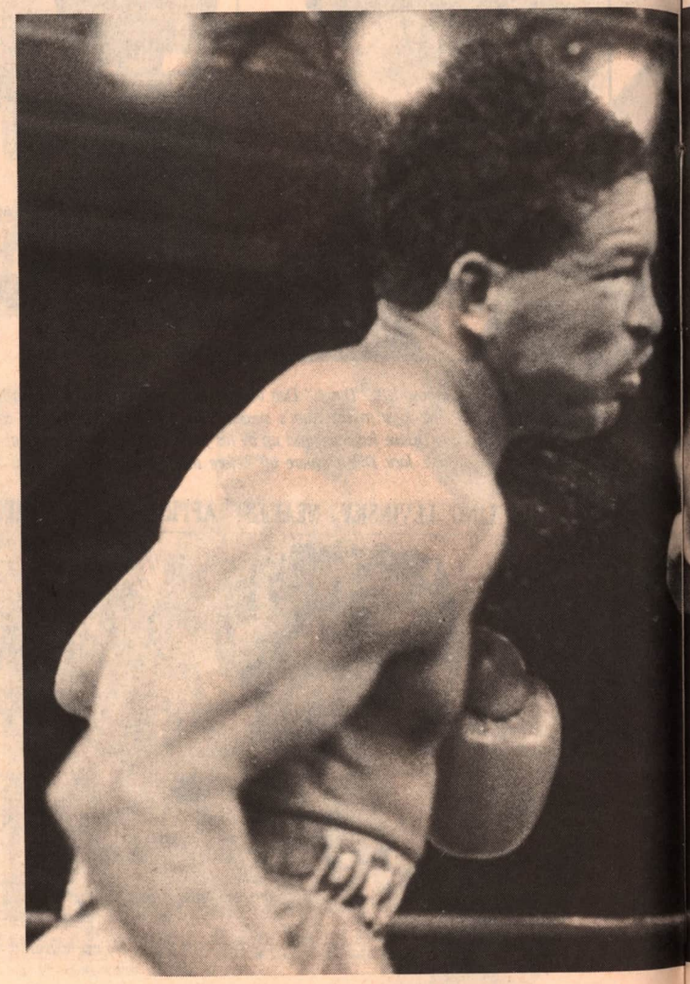


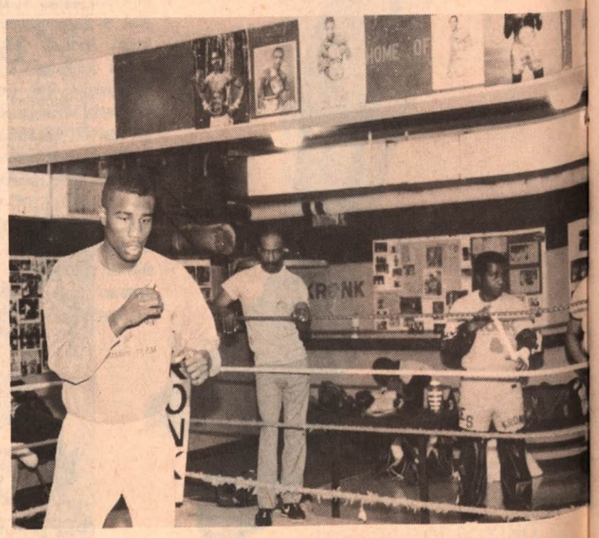
Contemporary sports cartoonists focused on Levinsky's incredible endurance and ability to sustain a high punch rate throughout entire rounds (left and above left). In 1928, long past his prime at age 37, Levinsky posed for this classic portrait (above) at a Long Branch, New Jersey, training camp, where he was preparing to fight an aspiring heavyweight named Phil Mercurio. (Levinsky would lose a 10-round decision.) Still proud and confident, the old Battler's face bore the classic badges of his trade: cauliflower ears, track-like scars criss-crossing his face, and a defiant expression that seemed to say, "I can still lick any sonofabitch alive."

Kronk's Junior Welter Hopeful



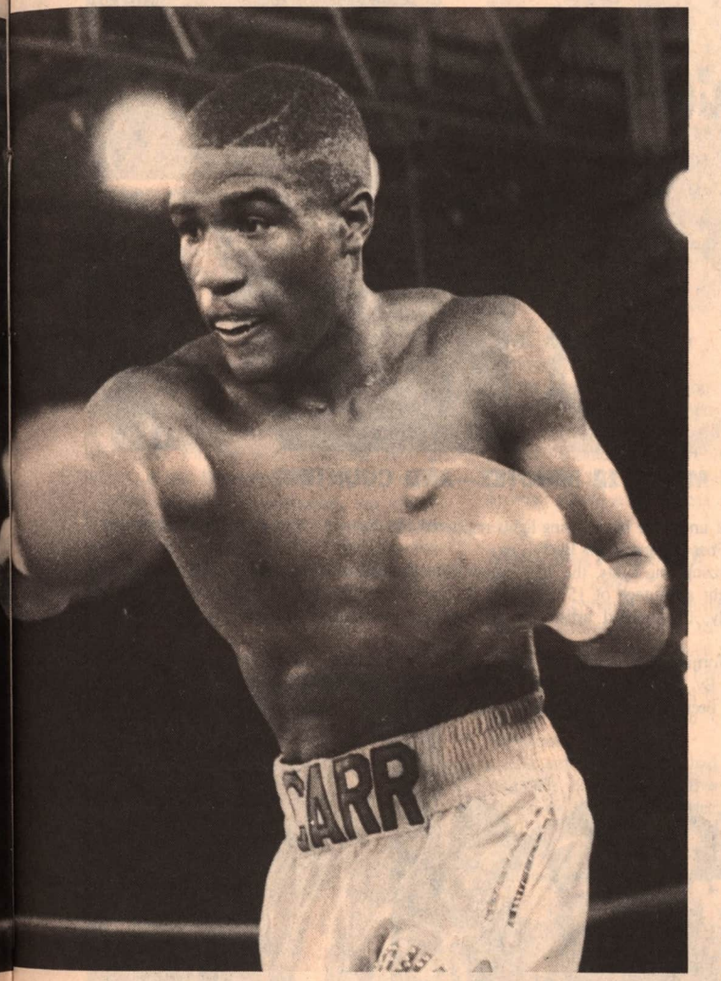
THE FINEST CARR MADE IN DETROIT





Left: At the famed Kronk gym in Detroit, prodigy Carr works under the watchful eyes of his father Eddie and manager Emanuel Steward (taping hands). Carr's progress has been steady.

Early in his career, Carr was pushed by veteran Simon Rengifo, whom he outpointed over four rounds. Thus far, however, his toughest tests have come in the gym.



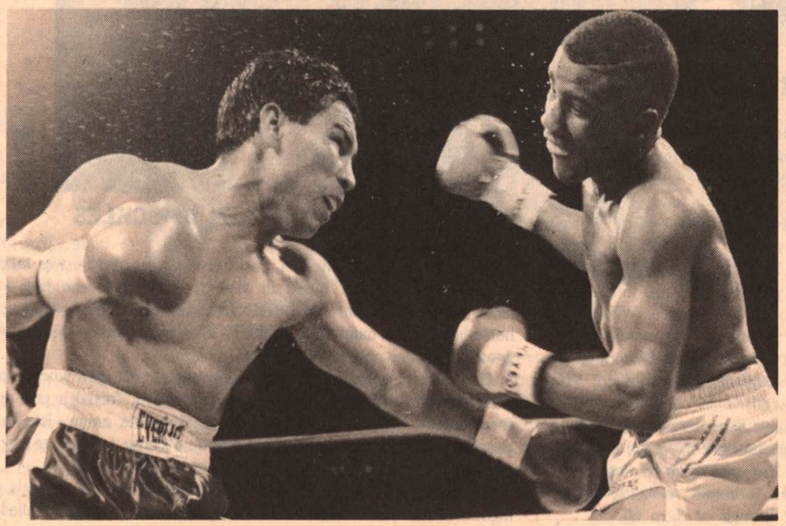
By Robert Cassidy

Whether it be by instinct or conscious decision, it seems that whenever a fighter puts on a pair of boxing trunks, no matter where he may be, he begins to shadowbox. So when the Kronk boxing team assembled for a team picture in a private studio on the East Side of Manhattan, it certainly gave new meaning to the phrase "occupational hazard" for the photographers and journalists present. Ripping through the air were 16 of the baddest fists in boxing.

Removed from the group, shadowboxing by himself, perhaps against an image of Julio Cesar Chavez or Hector Camacho, was the Kronk's 19-year-old junior welterweight prodigy, Oba Carr. Carr is quiet and shy, and therefore an easy target for the humor of longtime Kronk aide Prentiss Byrd, who told the rest of the team he once had to tell Carr to stop shadowboxing in an airport: "I said Oba, 'Do you see tennis players going through the airport practicing their backhands?' "

Byrd's running comedy routine lightened the atmosphere in the studio. But for most of the morning, Carr was content to observe the actions of his teammates. Mark Breland, the newest member of Kronk, has posed

(Continued on page 56)



Right: In his 13th fight, Carr was extended to the 10-round distance for the first time by Martin Quiroz. Two years before, Quiroz had kayoed another Kronk hopeful, Anthony Jones.

Compiled By Stanley Weston

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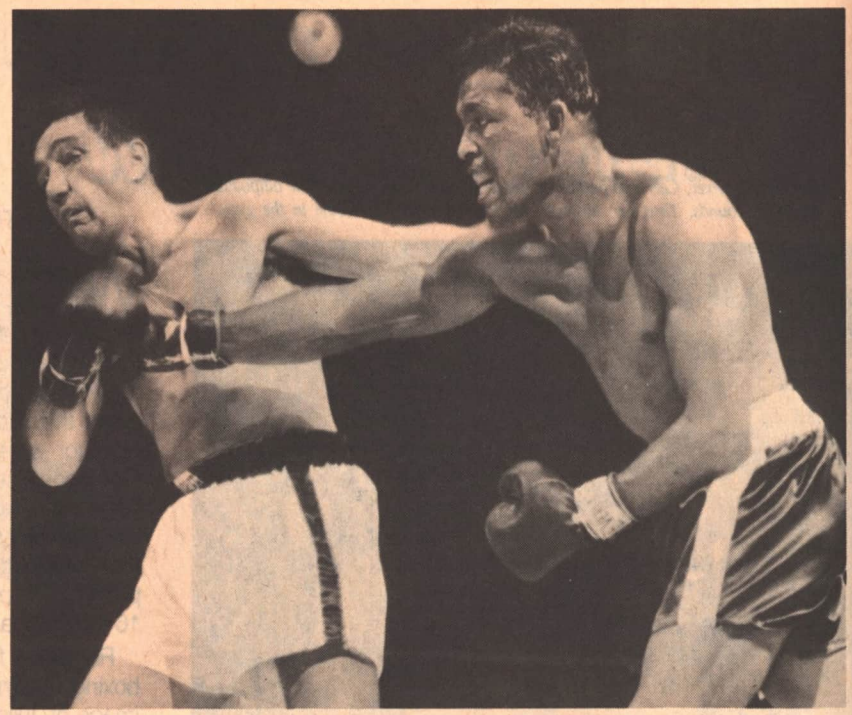


MELTDOWN MINUS 12 MINUTES—AND COUNTING

(June 25, 1952)

The stifling heat under the blazing ring lights registered 116 degrees; "Hot enough to drain blood," said *New York Post* columnist Al Buck.

Under those blazing ring lights, the light heavyweight champion of the world, sleek Joey Maxim, with a hefty weight advantage of 15½ pounds (173 to 157½), desperately tried to defend himself against the deadly, unparalleled artistry of the greatest prizefighter who ever lived, Sugar Ray Robinson.

Robinson, the former welterweight and reigning middleweight king, failed in his attempt to win his third world title. By the end of the 14th round of that unforgettable epic at inferno-like Yankee Stadium, he had been drained of his energy and couldn't lift his limp body off his stool.

JAKE DON'T FEEL SO GOOD

(June 27, 1951)

Jake LaMotta tells Dr. Vincent Nardiello, "I don't feel good enough to continue." Jake had staggered to his corner at the end of the seventh round after absorbing a savage battering from Irish Bob Murphy at New York's Yankee Stadium (just around the corner from LaMotta's Bronx home). For the 29-year-old "Bronx Bull," it was only the third time in 96 fights he failed to go the distance. With their hero still bearing the scars of his middleweight title loss to Sugar Ray Robinson four months before, LaMotta loyalists sadly admitted, "It ain't the same Jake."

He might not have been the same Jake, but he still had enough resilience to square off with Murphy one year later and romp to a convincing victory. When it comes to brave bulls, LaMotta was the bravest of them all.

IRISH LUCK AND BROKEN KNUCKLES

(June 13, 1935)

Less than half an hour after this dressing room picture was taken, Jimmy Braddock was standing in mid-ring, his hand raised in victory, listening to the ring announcer proclaim him the new heavyweight champion of the world. Surrounded by worshippers, "Cinderella Jim" clutches a horseshoe in one hand and a rabbit's foot in the other to acknowledge what he believed to be his good luck.

The next morning, the mood was anything but gay when Max Baer, the 15-1 favorite whom Braddock had relieved of the heavyweight crown, forced a grin on his swollen face. Baer displayed for the press what he called "the busted knuckles on my left hand." Although Maxie's hand did clearly bear the marks of battle, reporters chose to wait to see the X-rays before making final judgment.

But horseshoes and broken knuckles aside, Jimmy Braddock's remarkable feat on that hot June night will remain unforgettable so long as there is a sport called boxing.

SPECTATOR OSCAR

(March 8, 1971)

Argentine heavyweight Oscar Bonavena and his wife settle into their ringside seats at Madison Square Garden, awaiting the start of Ali-Frazier I, billed as the "Battle of the Century." Quite understandably, the bull-like Oscar considered himself more than just a spectator. After all, he had lost a pair of bruising decisions to Frazier and lasted until the 15th and final round against Ali. If anybody could offer an educated guess on who would win the most anticipated fight in history, it was Bonavena.

When asked for a prediction, the square-jawed Argentine answered, "Ali will knock him out. He's too fast for Joe." Which proves again that fighters are terrible handicappers, particularly when they're talking about former foes.

PERFECTION!

(March 17, 1944)

When Beau Jack's state-of-the art left jab contorted Al "Bummy" Davis' face into a Quasimoto lookalike in the third round of their Madison Square Garden fight, it served to neutralize boxing's most devastating powerpunch: Davis' left hook. Bragged Bummy at the weigh-in, "Give me one good hook any place on his head and this guy is gone."

Bummy never got the chance to make good his boast. Every time he set himself to launch his famous murder weapon, the superbly conditioned Beau stopped him in his tracks with pinpoint jabs that seemed to have their own eyes.

The enormously popular Jack, who, only two weeks before, had lost the world lightweight title to Bob Montgomery, was rewarded with a unanimous 10-round decision and a standing ovation from the sellout crowd, even though the majority of ticket buyers were Davis' fanatical Brooklyn supporters.

THE BEAR FACTS

(February 26, 1964)

"Big Bear" Sonny Liston reluctantly permits Miami boxing commission doctor Al Robbins to explain to reporters that Sonny had pulled muscles in his left bicep and shoulder during his title-losing bout with Cassius Clay the day before.

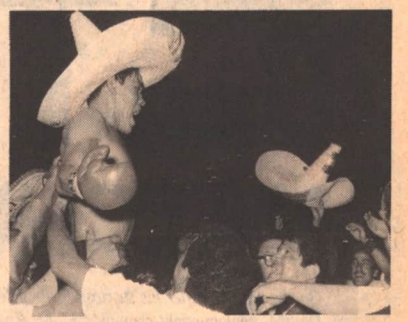
Liston's handlers strongly implied that the injury had cost Sonny the title, and that Clay couldn't fight even a little bit. Then what caused those cuts and swellings around the former champ's baby browns? Could it have been a butterfly that stung like a bee?

VIVA MAY-HEE-CO!

(August 22, 1969)

Newly crowned bantamweight champion Ruben Olivares is hoisted to the shoulders of deliriously happy countrymen after the dynamic little Mexican hero of heroes overwhelmed defending champion Lionel Rose in Los Angeles to capture the crown on a fifth-round knockout.

The unbeaten Olivares had racked up a remarkable record over his five-year professional career: 49 knockouts, one decision, one win via disqualification. So impressed was one sports editor with Ruben's destruction of Rose that he headlined his fight report: "POSITIVELY AND ABSOLUTELY—UNBEATABLE!" Not even non-Mexicans disagreed.



BLOODY MESS

(June 18, 1963)

Britain's idol-of-idols Henry Cooper tries as best he can to manage a smile through a maze of blood-dripping cuts and swellings after being stopped in the fifth round by sensational 21-year-old Cassius Clay in Henry's native London. It was a bitter defeat for ol' Enery and his army of worshippers, who, based more on sentiment than reality, had made Cooper an even-money bet.

For young Cassius, this victory was the launch pad to immortality, for it gave him the credibility to challenge heavyweight champion Sonny Liston, a challenge that became reality eight months later in Miami and resulted in one of boxing's greatest upsets. Clay stopped "Big Bear" Liston to become heavyweight champion.

Boxing, like all sports, has always reflected society at-large. Just as a defiant Muhammad Ali was a symbol of the 1960s, and the free-swinging, free-spending Jack Dempsey represented the "Roaring Twenties," boxing matchups pitting different ethnic groups once symbolized the growing diversity of the American population.

From 1920 to the late-'40s, almost every big city and small town contained gyms and fight halls whose rings were occupied with fighters. Those fighters feared nothing and no one, battling and bleeding as often as 10 or 15 times a year.

In the '20s and '30s, fight cards in New York City took place six nights a week at such locales as St. Nicholas Arena, the Bronx Coliseum, the Broadway Arena, the Star Casino, Ridgewood Grove, the Queensboro Athletic Club, and, of course, Madison Square Garden. And if the fights and fighters on those cards were not sufficiently intriguing, fans only had to peruse the myriad sports sections to see what was being offered across the Hudson River in New Jersey, at the Elizabeth Armory or Newark's Laurel Gardens.

Back then, 12 or more fights per card was routine, with clubs always seeming to pit an Irishman against a Jew, an Italian against a Jew, or an Irishman against an Italian.

"Ethnic fights such as these were almost always good draws wherever they were held," explained boxing historian Hank Kaplan. "And small clubs flourished everywhere, including hundreds upon hundreds of little towns and hamlets around the country. Whatever ethnic groups settled in that area, those were the fellows who you saw fight one another."

In the early-'20s, the Irish dominated boxing. Having arrived 800,000 strong between 1910 and 1920, they became the first ethnic group to use the sport as a means to improve second-class citizenship. Arguably the best of those fighters was welterweight champion Jimmy McLarnin, who built a reputation for always besting boxing's top Jewish fighters, including Barney Ross, Al Singer, Jackie Fields, Ruby Goldstein, and the greatest Jewish fighter of all, Benny Leonard. As McLarnin recalls it, however, he had no choice.

"All I ever saw were Jewish fighters," the 83-year-old legend told *The Ring*. "When I started fighting, there was no one else to fight. I only fought three blacks."

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO ETHNIC MATCHUPS?

By Joseph C. Tintle

On the morning after his successful title defense against Mexico's Chucho Castillo, bantamweight champion Lionel Rose, an Australian, reads about the riot that followed the announcement of the split decision.

As the vibrant '20s spilled into the Depression years of the '30s, Jews and Italians, who had recently arrived in America, joined the Irish on the fistic scene in an effort to escape their ghetto plight. And more and more fight fans came out to cheer their own. Contributing to the growing phenomenon was not only McLarnin, but also Italian world champions like Tony Canzoneri and Bat Battalino, and Jewish world champions like Jack "Kid" Berg and Al Singer.

Former bantamweight titlist Charley Phil Rosenberg, who reigned in the mid-'20s, recalled that ethnic fights also brought out the worst in fans, particularly if you were Jewish and fighting out of state. One time, Rosenberg was boxing in a small Ohio town, and an impatient ringsider implored Rosenberg's opponent to end matters quickly.

"Kill the Jew bastard," the voice cried out.

When Rosenberg returned to his corner, he took a swig of water, swished it around his bloodied mouth, and spat it in the face of the heckler.

"Turns out he was the mayor of the town," Rosenberg said.

Promoters, of course, sensed the dislike—even hatred—members of one nationality often had for another. What better way to make money, they reasoned, than to feed off people's worst instincts?

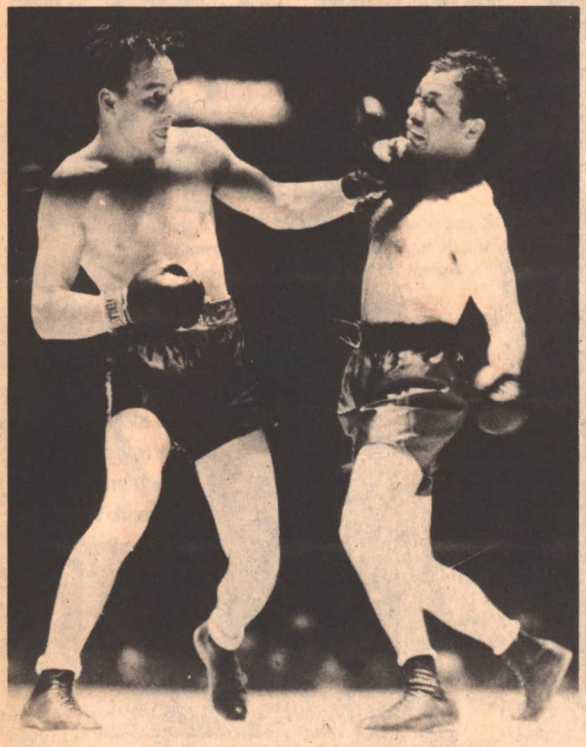
At times, those emotions were revealed in the ring, and not only by how hard one fighter pummeled another. Light heavyweight champion Billy Conn, who was Irish, and middleweight king Fred Apostoli, who was Italian, stopped fighting during their second bout in 1939 and exchanged harsh words because Conn thought Apostoli was fighting dirty.

"We stepped back and called each other all the names," Conn told Peter Heller in the book *In This Corner*. "I said, 'Listen, you dago bastard, keep your thumb out of my eye!' " He says, 'Listen, you Irish sonofabitch, quit beefin'

(Continued on page 56)

In the '20s and '30s, Jimmy McLarnin (right), who was Irish, was involved in dozens of ethnic matchups. Here he squares off with lightweight champion Sammy Mandell, who was Italian. Mandell won on points.

A try at the heavyweight title was awaiting Rocky Marciano. But first he had to defeat Harry Matthews. The Rock scored a second-round kayo (above), finishing "The Kid" with two hooks. Jimmy McLarnin hooks to the jaw of Tony Canzoneri (below). The all-time greats split back-to-back fights in 1936.

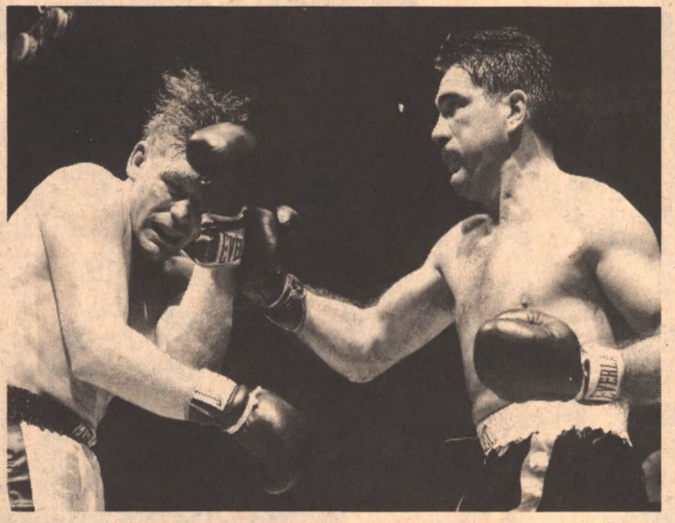


THE IRISH VS. THE ITALIANS

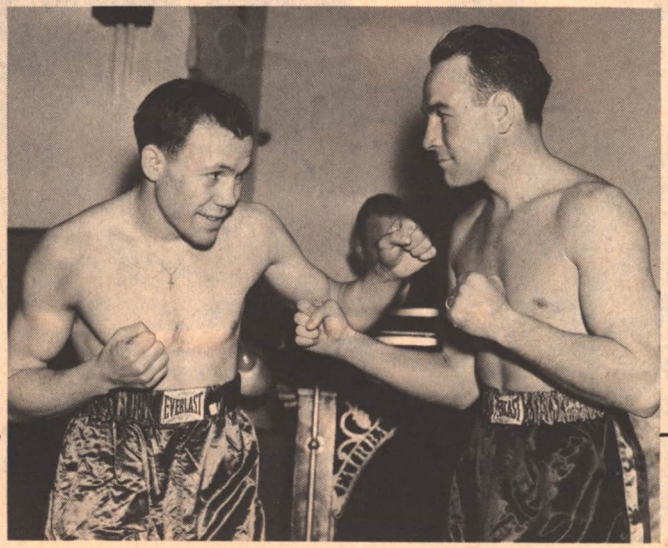
THE ETHNIC MATCHUPS OF YESTERYEAR

Primo Carnera isn't regarded as highly as light heavyweight Tommy Loughran, but during their 1934 heavyweight title fight, the giant was too big for his challenger.

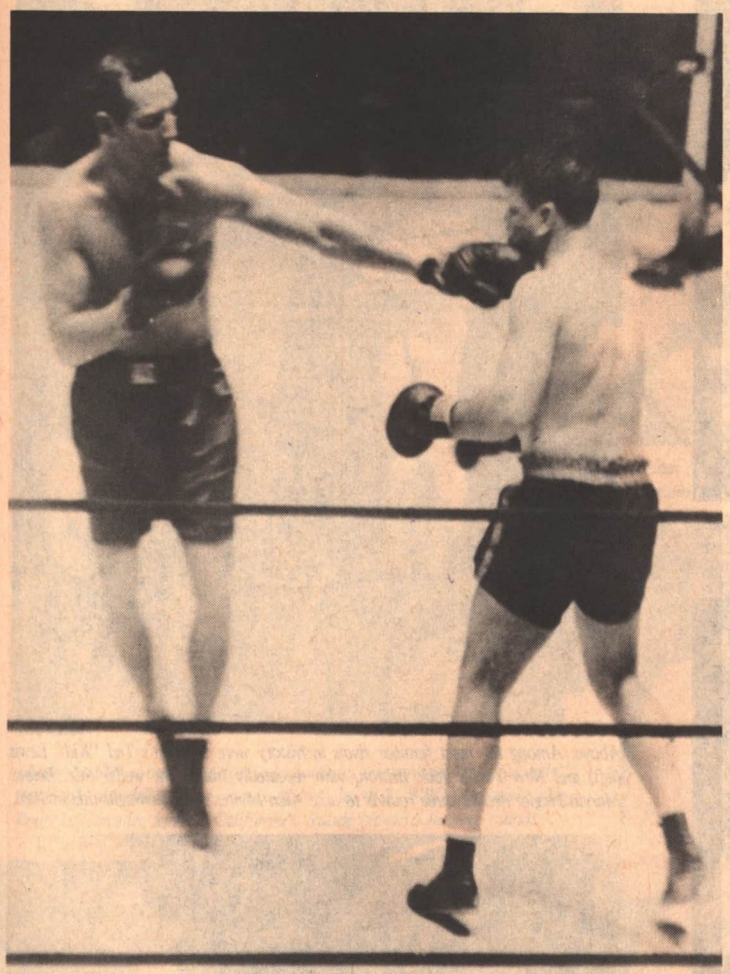
Irish Bob Murphy was coming off a kayo of Jake LaMotta, but he was unable to dethrone light heavyweight champion Joey Maxim in their 1951 title fight. Maxim won on points.



Lightweight king Lou Ambers poses with Jimmy McLarnin before their non-title fight in 1936. McLarnin outweighed Ambers by eight pounds and won via decision in his last bout.

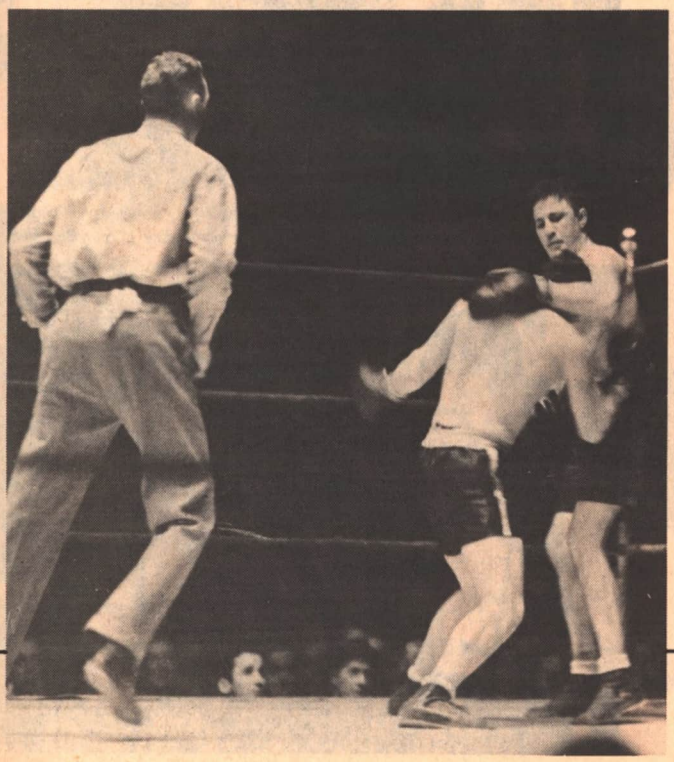


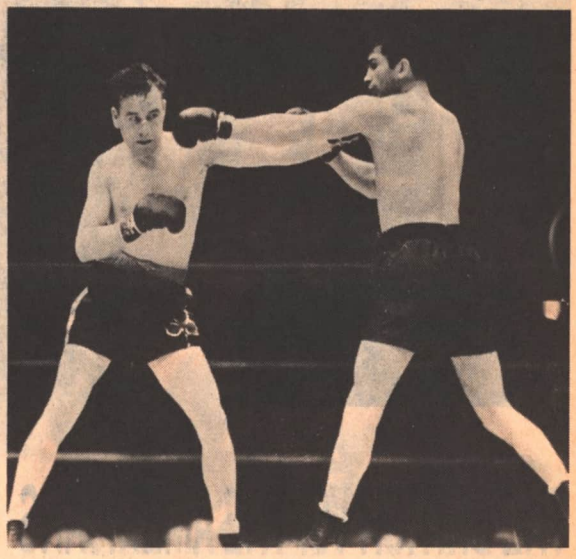
THE IRISH VS. THE JEWS



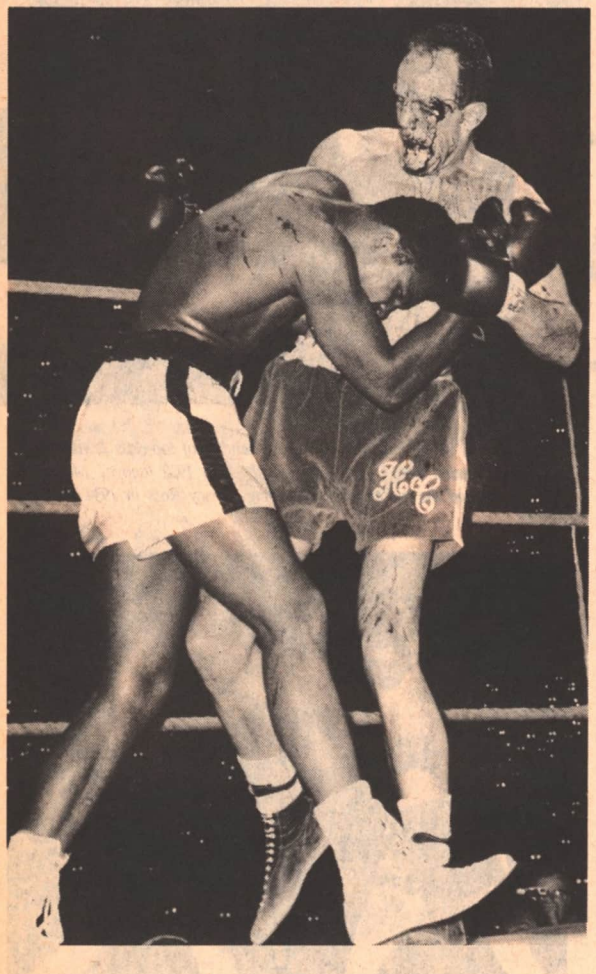
Light heavyweight champion Maxie Rosenbloom edged Mickey Walker in 1933 (above). Also in 1933, Tommy Loughran, facing the camera, topped King Levinsky (below).

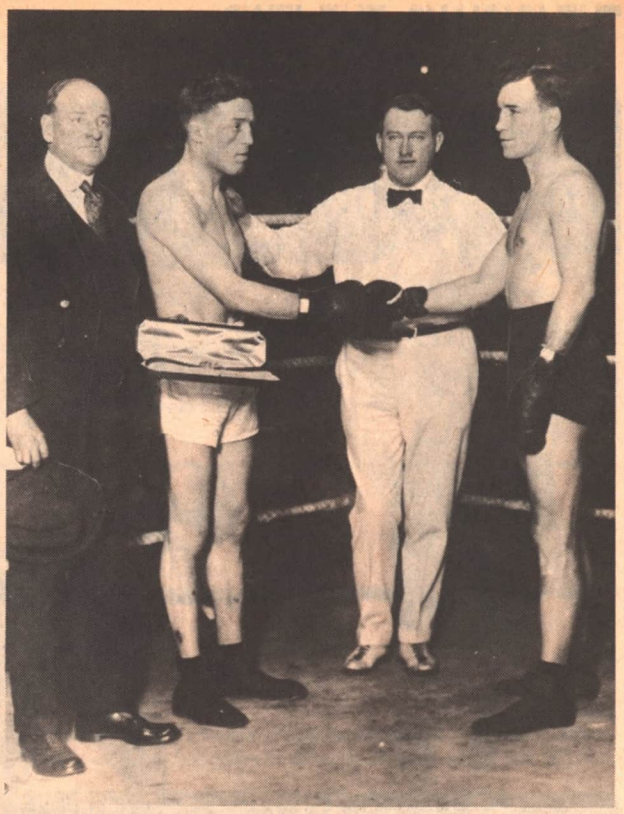
Jimmy McLarnin, who defeated a handful of top-class Jewish fighters, ended Benny Leonard's comeback in 1932 (above). McLarnin regained the welter title by topping Barney Ross in 1934 (below).





Game British challengers Frank Bruno (above) and Henry Cooper (below) failed to dethrone heavyweight champions Mike Tyson and Muhammad Ali, respectively. Both Englishmen were stopped after valiant efforts.





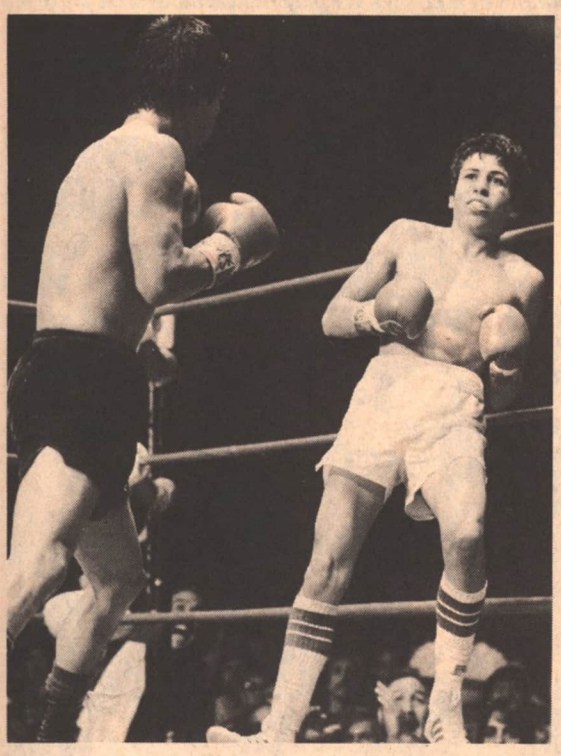
Above: Among the most familiar rivals in history were London's Ted "Kid" Lewis (left) and New York's Jack Britton, who repeatedly traded the welter title. Below: Marvin Hagler needed three rounds to take Alan Minter's middleweight title in 1980.

Tommy Farr squares off opposite Joe Louis before their 1937 heavyweight title fight at Yankee Stadium. Louis retained the crown with a demanding 15-round decision.

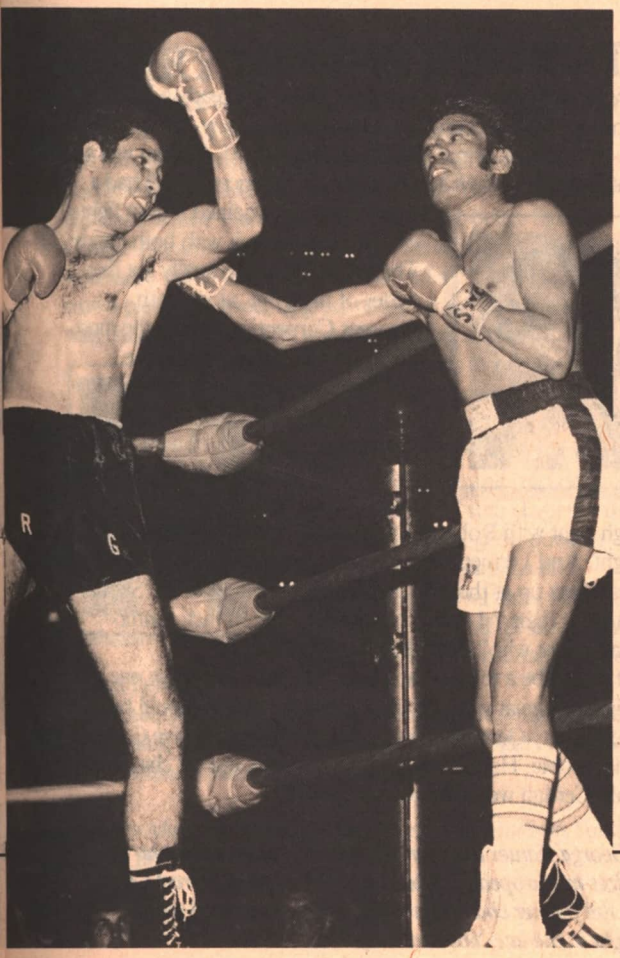
THE BRITISH VS. THE AMERICANS

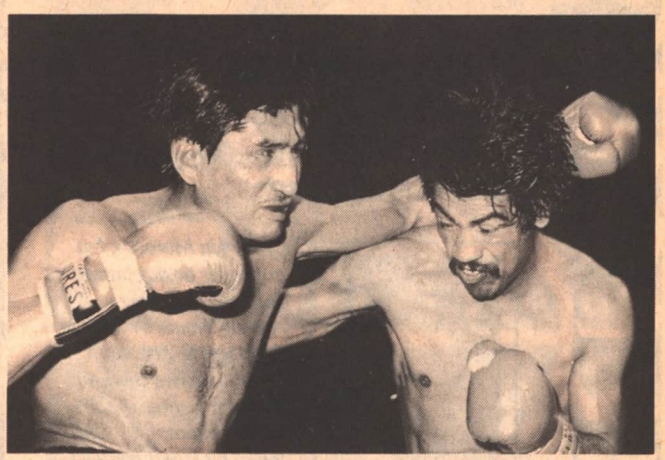
THE ETHNIC MATCHUPS OF YESTERYEAR

THE MEXICAN-AMERICANS VS. THE MEXICAN-NATIONALS

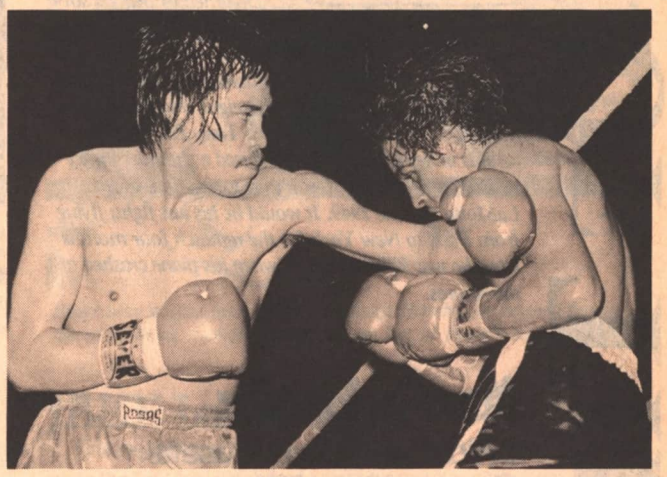


Above: In 1978, Mexico's Alfonso Zamora was too powerful for "Superfly" Sandoval, who fell in nine rounds. Below: In 1973, WBC lightweight king Rodolfo Gonzalez kayoed California's Ruben Navarro in nine rounds.

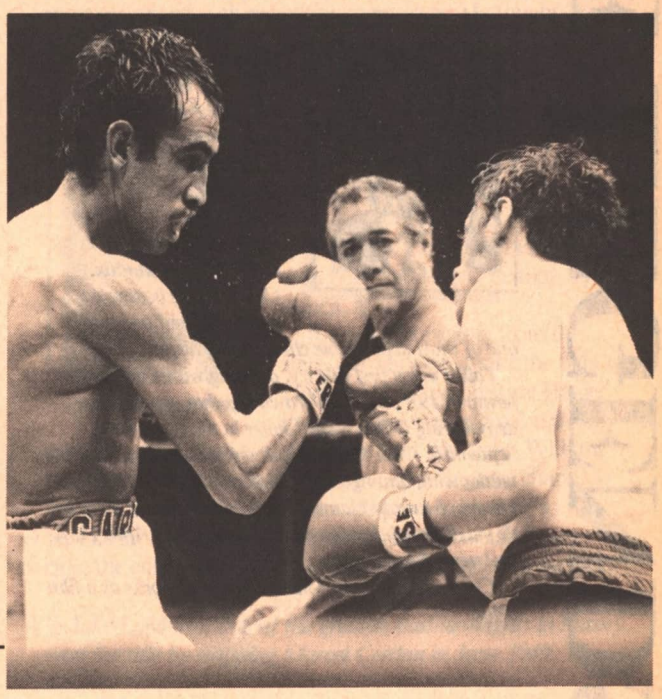




Mexican-National Jose Palacios misses with a left vs. WBC welterweight titlist Carlos Palomino during their 1977 title bout. Palomino scored a 13th-round stoppage.



In the first of their three meetings, Mexican-National Ruben Olivares stopped Bobby Chacon in nine rounds (above). WBC bantamweight king Carlos Zarate, a Mexican-National, hit too hard for Albert Davila, who crashed in eight rounds in 1978 (below).



BATTLE OF THE LEGENDS

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Marcel Cerdan

Casablanca, Morocco
Career: 1934-1949
105-4 with 60 kayos

Born in Morocco, but shifted his boxing base to Paris early in career. Among France's most beloved sporting heroes. Handsome and charismatic, and a favorite of the gossip columnists, who followed his love affair with legendary singer Edith Piaf.

Dreamed of being a soccer star, but followed older brothers into boxing. Stood 5'8", and fought with a spark. Won first 45 fights. Debuted in the United States in 1946, and won world middleweight crown less than two years later, stopping a faded Tony Zale in 12 rounds in September 1948. Suffered a shoulder injury in his first defense, a 10-round stoppage loss to Jake LaMotta in June 1949. It would be his last fight; flying from Paris to New York for the rematch four months later, he was killed at age 33 when his plane crashed in the Azores.

Marvin Hagler

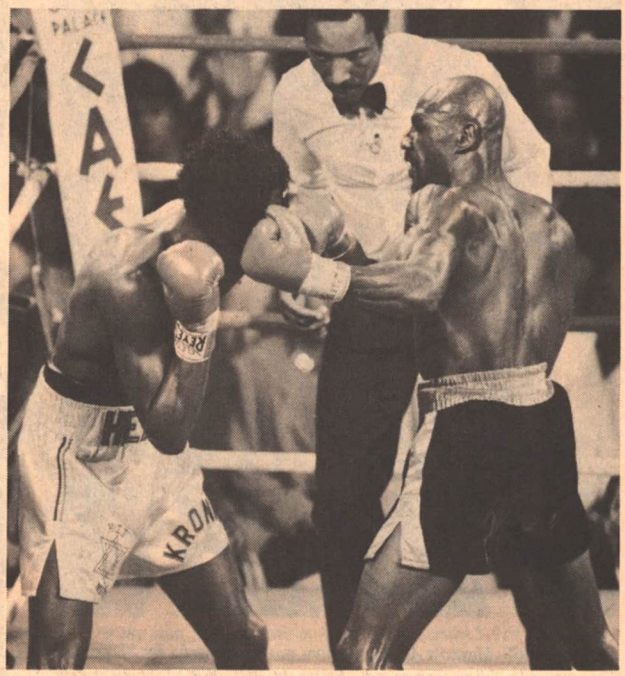
Brockton, Massachusetts
Career: 1973-1987
62-3-2 with 52 kayos

A throwback to fighters of yesterday, who learned their craft before challenging for the title. Progress was slowed by three facts: He was black, he was a southpaw, and he was good. Stood 5'9" and often confused opponents by switching to orthodox. Comfortable boxing or punching, and possessed one of most dependable chins in ring history.

Failed in his first title try, drawing with Vito Antuofermo in 1979, but won crown less than a year later, demolishing Briton Alan Minter in three rounds in September 1980. Made 12 successful defenses, surviving battles with, among others, Roberto Duran, Thomas Hearns, Mustafa Hamsho, and John Mugabi. Lost title via disputed decision to Ray Leonard in April 1987, and never fought again.

Currently resides in Milan, Italy, and works as a film actor.

Fight fans will forever debate the merits of champions who never met in the ring. In "Battle Of The Legends," the editors of THE RING play matchmaker and pit two of the all-time greats against each other. Three experts serve as judges. If there are particular dream matches that you'd like to see featured, please write to us.



Hagler-Thomas Hearns was a particularly ferocious fight. They battled through an amazing first round. Hearns then slowed and Hagler stopped him in three.

GEORGE KANTER

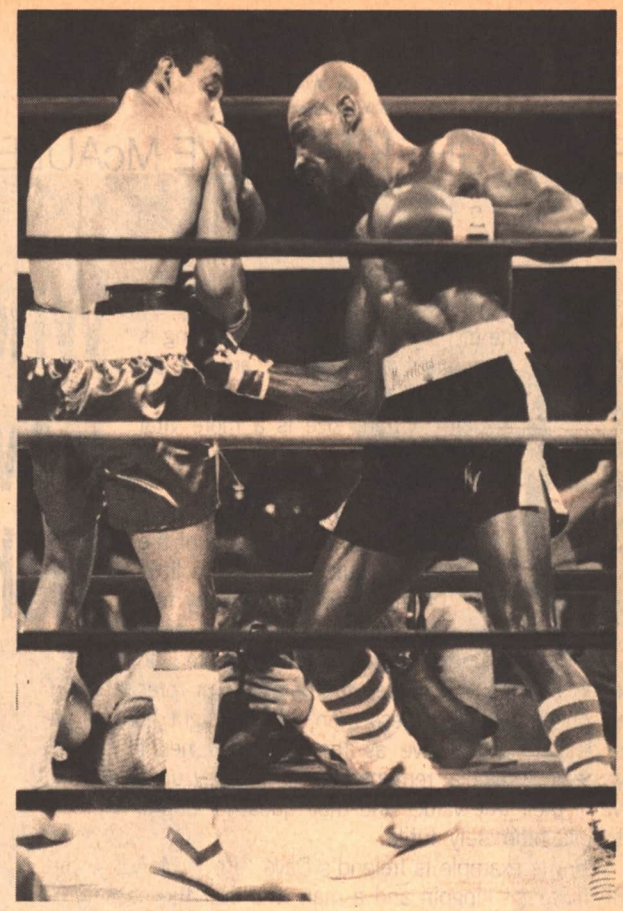
When Cerdan came to America, he was already a little past his prime. And he won the title by beating Tony Zale, who was *way* past his prime. Before World War II, Cerdan was a great welterweight. When he came to America, he still had a fancy left and remained a busy fighter who could punch with both hands. The bright lights eventually got the better of him, but, along with Georges Carpentier, he was the most loved French fighter of all-time.

Hagler blossomed after he became champion. I worked in corners against him, and he had a lot of defects. If you stayed close to him, he didn't know what to do. He had a tough fight with Roberto Duran, who was, at best, a welterweight. And I remember before the first [Vito] Antuofermo fight, I was up at the offices of CBS. Someone said, "Should be a short fight." I said, "No, it won't be. In fact, Antuofermo might win." And they fought to a draw.

It would be a tough, hard fight. Cerdan only knew one way to fight: come at you and throw bombs. Hagler would box him, the way Georgie Abrams did, which would give Cerdan some trouble. Hagler had, unquestionably, a great chin. As a result, Cerdan would've won on points.

George Kanter is a manager and booking agent who specializes in European fighters. Kanter handled Marcel Cerdan Jr., the former champion's son, who was a rated middleweight in the late-'60s and early-'70s.

Cerdan made France proud when he won the middleweight crown by stopping Tony Zale in 12 rounds. His aggressive style overwhelmed the faded "Man Of Steel."



Hagler twice stopped fellow southpaw Mustafa Hamsho, an awkward brawler who refused to retreat. Hamsho brought out the best of Hagler's boxing skills.

HARRY MARKSON

By the time Cerdan fought Jake LaMotta, he was on his way down. But I remember talking to people overseas who saw him in his prime, and they rated him as one of the finest middleweights of his era. He was certainly one of the better fighters, because I saw him fight one of the better fighters, Georgie Abrams, and he was great. Cerdan wasn't Sugar Ray Robinson, but at that point, he still had a lot left. He was a crowd-pleaser, a good, aggressive fighter who could hurt you with either hand. And he was indomitable in spirit.

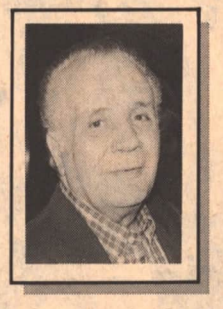
When it comes to middleweights, I was spoiled, because I saw Robinson and LaMotta and Apostoli and Steele, and even Walker, but not in his prime, and they all left lasting impressions. But I'd rate Hagler in the top five. He was a good puncher who had a lot of stamina and strength, and a great chin. He had a competitive fire, and his southpaw style gave him an advantage over orthodox fighters.

It would be a tough matchup. I see Hagler trying to knock out Cerdan, and Cerdan trying to outpoint Hagler. It would go the distance. I like Hagler on points.

Harry Markson is the former president of Madison Square Garden Boxing.

JAKE LaMOTTA

This would be an excellent fight. Both of these guys fought from the first bell until the last. They were great fighters in their own eras, although I think that Cerdan's era was better. Cerdan wasn't like most European fighters, who are usually most concerned with protecting themselves. He fought like an American. His style was similar to mine. He was always moving forward, bobbing and weaving, pressing the action. He always used that strategy.



It's hard to find a weakness in Hagler. He was always in great shape. For a southpaw, Hagler had a very good boxing style, and he loved to mix it up. He could punch well with both hands, and he took a great punch, too.

It would be exciting from the start. Cerdan would take the fight to Hagler. He would pressure Hagler the way Vito Antuofermo did. Antuofermo gave Hagler problems in their first fight. With the pace Cerdan would set, he wouldn't give Hagler a chance to get set. Cerdan fought several southpaws in his day, so I don't see Hagler's stance presenting a problem. It would be very close the entire fight. I see Cerdan edging Hagler by decision.

Jake LaMotta, one of the greatest middleweights in history, won the title by stopping Marcel Cerdan in June 1949. ■

When He Goes Down, He Gets His Irish Up

By Brian Doogan

One of the cruelest ironies in boxing is that talent and success are not always conducive to recognition and acclaim. Often, size is a more vital attribute, which is both a prejudice and a disgrace.

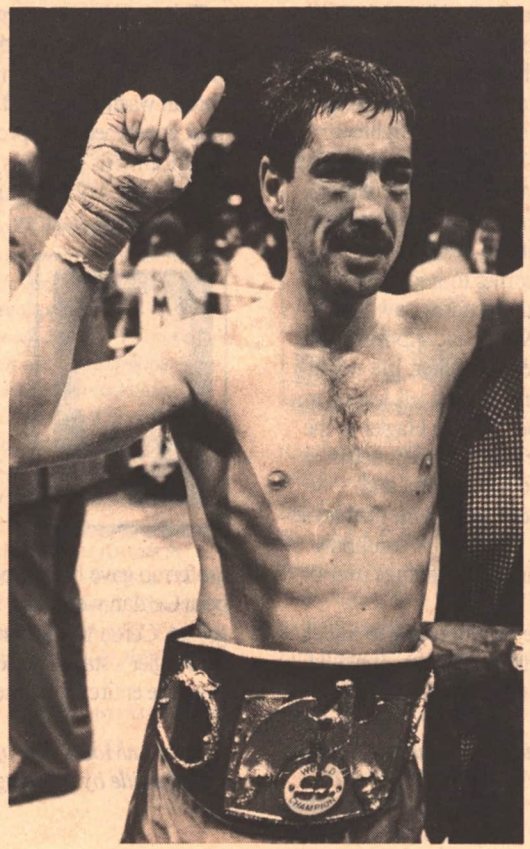
Purists have endeavored for years to draw attention to the merits of the smaller men, but, evidently, to little avail. To the detriment of many fine and accomplished lighter-weight fighters, bigger is still equated to better through ignorance, indifference, or preconceived misconceptions. For these men, the limelight has proven as despairingly elusive as the proverbial needle in the haystack. Financial remuneration is pitifully unrepresentative of their true value, and their quest for public appreciation is ultimately futile.

A prime example is Ireland's Dave "Boy" McAuley, the IBF flyweight kingpin and a man who over the past number of years has proven himself one of the premier fighters in the division. With four successful defenses, he has surpassed Barry McGuigan as the Emerald Isle's most accomplished boxer, and, along with Jim Watt, shares the distinction of having made the most successful defenses of a world title by any fighter from the British Isles.

In spite of his achievements and many exhibitions of deep courage—such as against Colombian opponents Fidel Bassa and Rodolfo Blanco—Dave Boy has remained, in worldwide terms, a relative nonentity.

In Ireland itself, the support he has received has been relatively lukewarm, especially when compared to the adulation so abundantly lavished on McGuigan, his close friend and confidant. In a sense, he has suffered unfairly as a direct consequence of McGuigan's exploits. But there is probably a much more far-reaching reason that is as unjust as it is explicit. To cite and supplement an old boxing adage: As the heavyweights go, so goes boxing; as the flyweights go, so goes oblivion.

Most of McAuley's contests have been anything but forgettable, and many have developed into absolute wars of attrition. He brings to his trade the passion and spirit of a man who would be willing to make the ultimate sacrifice in order to emerge triumphant. Against Bassa in their first fight, he very nearly did. Seventeen knockdowns endured in a mere 21 fights bear testimony to his fortitude and ensure that he is one of the most exciting performers in the ring today.

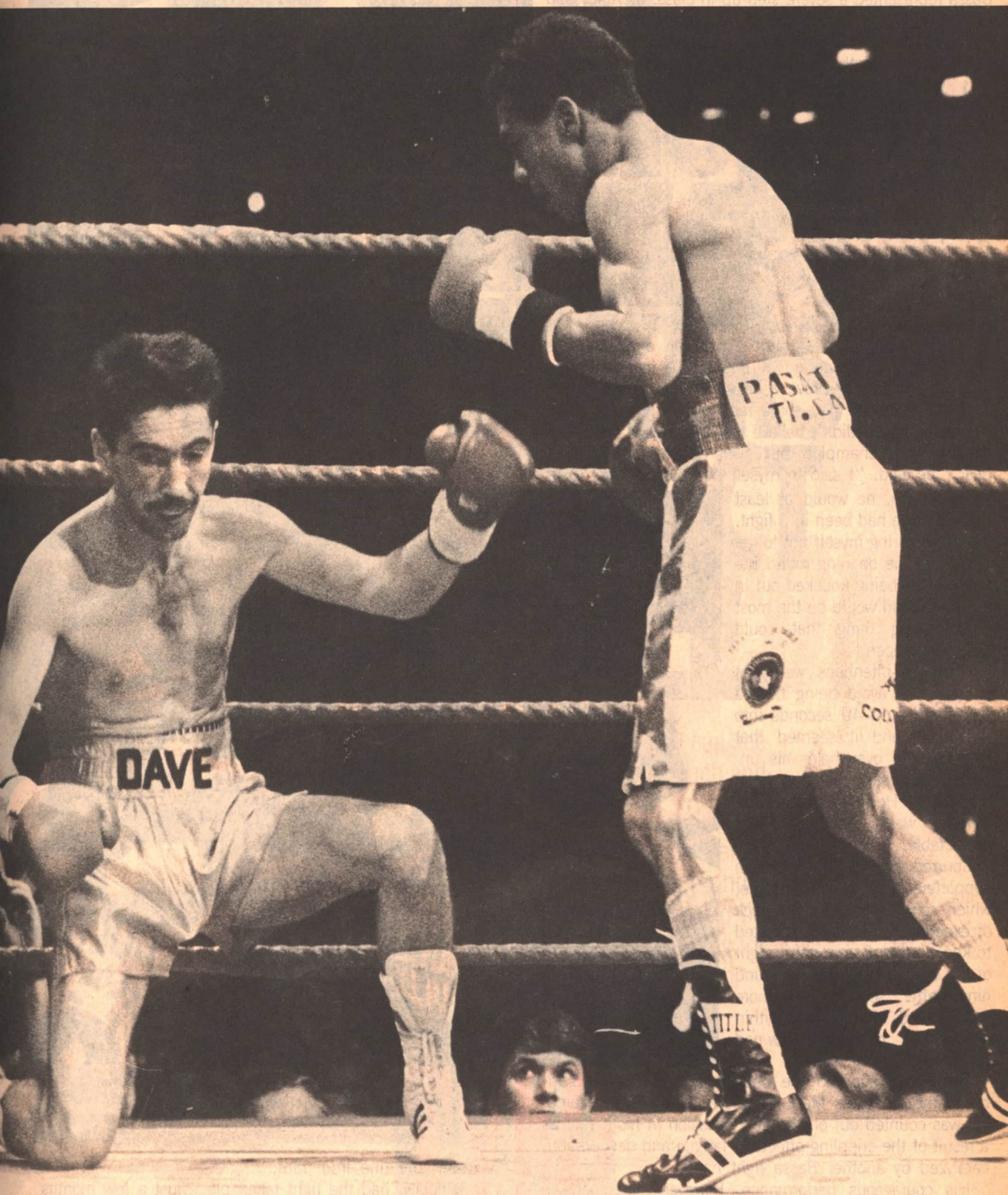


Inside the ring, McAuley offers a reckless style. Outside, he is articulate, quick-witted, and possesses a good-humored personality. He is very much a family man, being married to his wife Wendy for eight years and having a lovely daughter, Sasha. Residing in the suburbs of his hometown of Larne, he has remained close to his roots. And he is quite philosophical about why his career has not attracted greater interest, harboring no detectable grudge or bitterness whatsoever.

"When I fight I give 100 percent," he said. "Nothing less is acceptable. Despite this, I have never received the benefits that people associate with successful world champions. Boxing has not been as lucrative for me as you might imagine. I don't know why exactly this is, because my fights nearly always turn into wars, and I definitely provide people with value for money."

The war in which McAuley is most associated is the extraordinary bout with Bassa in Belfast

A familiar sight: IBF flyweight champion Dave McAuley is floored by challenger Rodolfo Blanco. McAuley's title fights have been full of dramatic comebacks and thrilling finishes.



in April 1987. It was a classic confrontation of will, skill, and thrills, and thoroughly merited the distinction of being judged Flyweight Fight of the Decade by *The Ring*.

It was only McAuley's 14th professional fight, and Bassa represented a severe step up in class. McAuley had just annexed the British title in his previous contest, but manager Barney Eastwood's long association with influential figures in South American boxing proved instrumental in quickly securing the untried Irishman a shot at the world title. Critics scoffed at Eastwood's optimism, but ultimately it was to prove a stroke of ingenuity.

McAuley squares off against the only fighter who has beaten him, Colombian Fidel Bassa (left). McAuley indirectly gained revenge by outpointing Bassa's countryman, Rodolfo Blanco, last year (right).

McAuley indeed had some reservations himself.

"At the time I didn't believe that I was good enough to become world champion, but I was determined to do my best," he said. "I said to myself that even if Bassa was going to win, he would at least know that he had been in a fight. I kept preparing myself not to get caught in the opening round because I felt being knocked out in the first round would be the most embarrassing thing that could possibly happen."

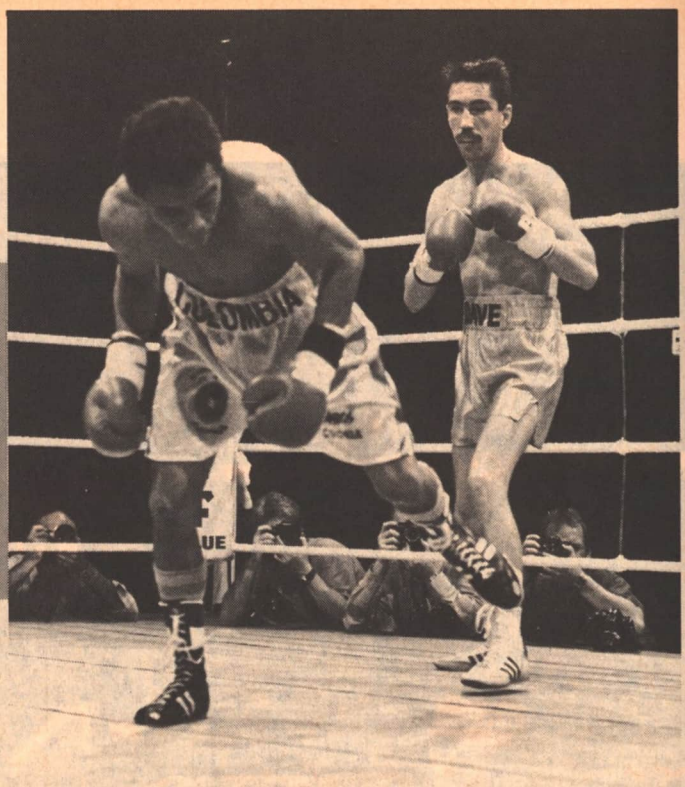
His best intentions were not sufficient to avoid being floored by a hard right 40 seconds into the fight, and it seemed that Bassa would overwhelm his unproven adversary, as had been predicted. However, what followed was anything but predictable.

Spurred on by his partisan supporters and a fierce pride, which compensated for any lack of experience, McAuley retaliated to knock down Bassa with a right of his own in the third. In round nine, after scoring two more knockdowns, McAuley was within one punch of being crowned champion.

But Bassa survived the onslaught, and by the 13th round the tenacious McAuley was an utterly spent force. He was counted out on the only occasion in his career as a result of the crippling effects of fatigue and dehydration, catalyzed by another Bassa right hand.

His courageous performance, however, had made a mockery of the pundits and had fully vindicated his manager's judgment.

"On that night Dave proved what a great fighter he really is," said Eastwood. "Bassa was a worthy champion and in his prime, yet McAuley, on guts alone, had almost wrested the title from him."



McAuley and Blanco acknowledge each other after their brawl. McAuley was dropped four times and still won a unanimous decision. Blanco is currently rated first, and the rivals will likely meet again.

Ironically, had the fight taken place just a few months later, when WBA title fights were reduced to 12 rounds, McAuley, ahead on all three cards at the time of the stoppage, would have triumphed. The imminent rematch was indeed fought over the shorter distance, but McAuley

(Continued on page 62)

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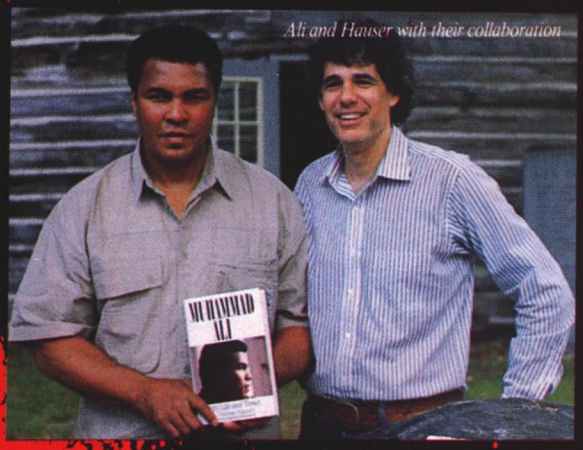
The Making Of A Bestseller



Ali and Hauser with their collaboration

MUHAMMAD ALI
His Life And Times

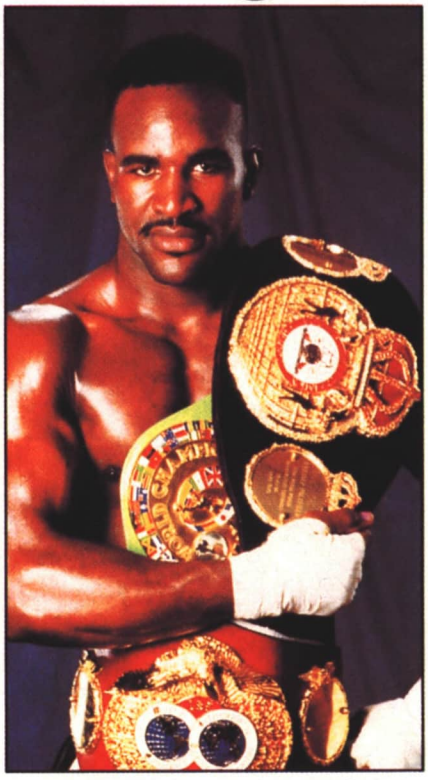
By Joseph C. Tintle

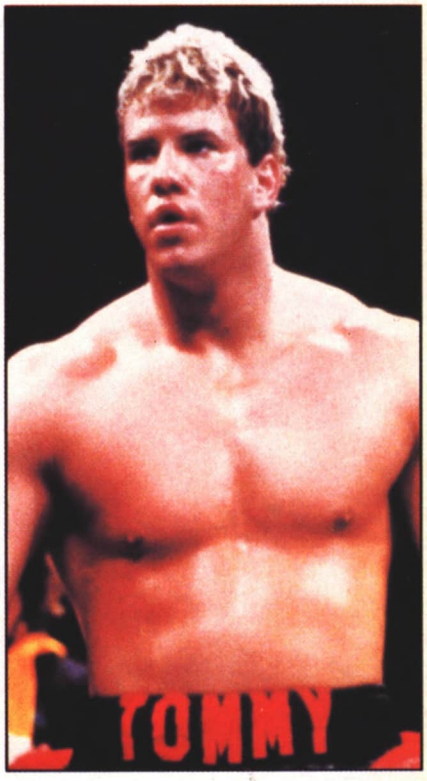
Before Tom Hauser agreed to write *Muhammad Ali: His Life And Times*, he spent five days on Ali's farm in Berrien Springs, Michigan. It was a terrific experience, but the 46-year-old author admits that at first, he was uncomfortable.

"I was terribly intimidated," Hauser said. "Outside of John Kennedy, I don't think there's another person on the planet who could have shaken me up as much as Muhammad. He's the most recognizable person in the world."

(Continued on page 63)

The odds of getting these Heavyweights together are rare,





very rare.

The odds are in your favor. The **Ringlords** Boxing Card Set, a collection of the world's top ranked boxers, features some of the biggest name fighters and rising young contenders in the sport today.

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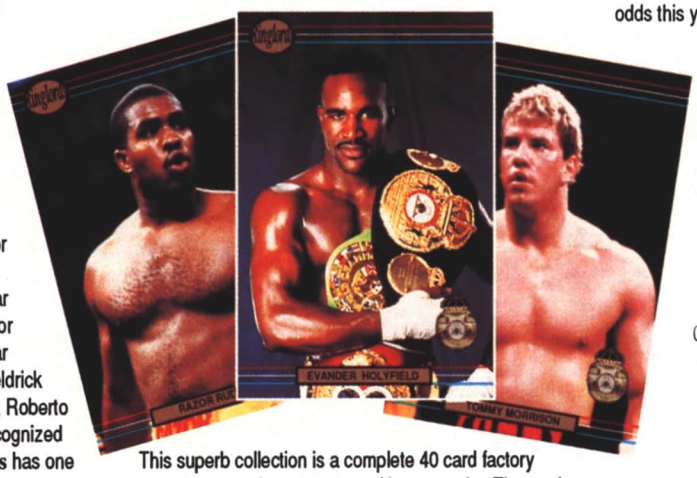
Ringlords has many other popular fighters you have seen in action: Razor Ruddock, Tommy Morrison, Julio Cesar Chavez, Virgil Hill, Tommy Hearns, Meldrick Taylor, Michael Moorer, Michael Nunn, Roberto Duran, Michael Carbajal, and other recognized celebrities in the sport. And **Ringlords** has one of the greatest heavyweights of all time, **Muhammad Ali.**

The card set also features several International champions, some seldom seen in the United States, currently rated pound for pound as the most exciting boxers in all the world.



This superb collection is a complete 40 card factory set,so you won't have to mess with wax packs. The cards are eye stoppers. Excellent close-up shots of the fighters along with statistics of their professional careers. And for your insurance that **Ringlords** is a credible product for the hobby, the set is officially licensed by the World Boxing Association (WBA)...

You can see, these cards are definitely stacked in your favor. Not everyone will have the chance to collect this unique boxing card set. Quantities are limited. So order your set today and get the best odds this year .

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Ringlords Boxing Card Set will be made available through the following national distributors. Call the exclusive agent nearest you to place an order.

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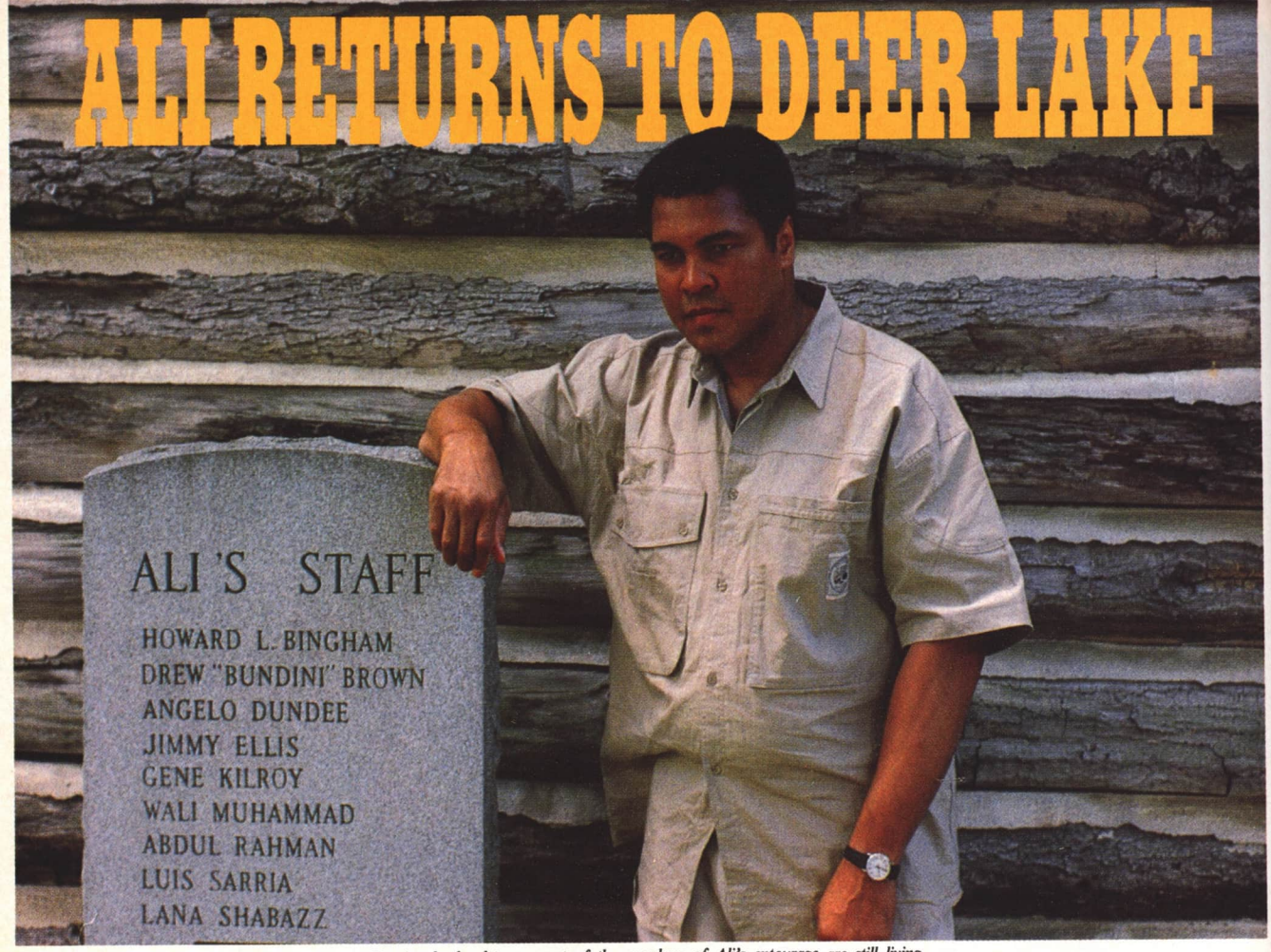
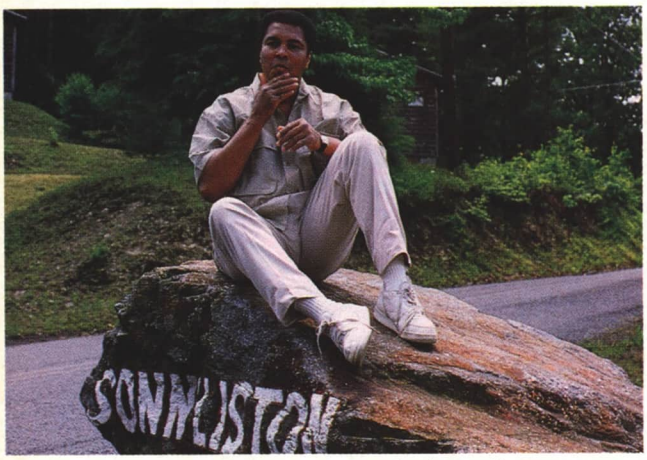
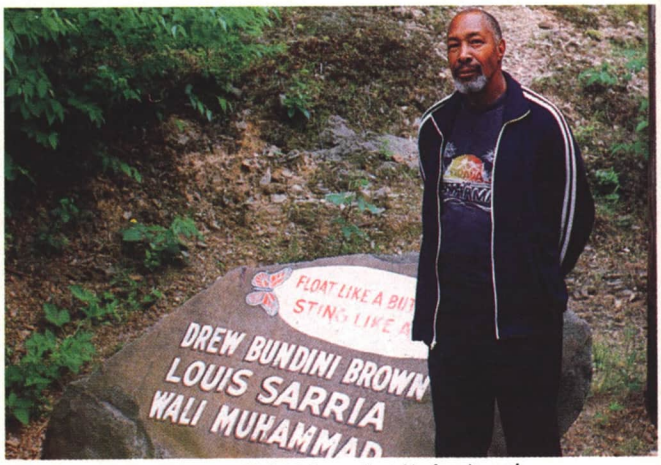
ALI RETURNS TO DEER LAKE



Despite the headstone, most of the members of Ali's entourage are still living

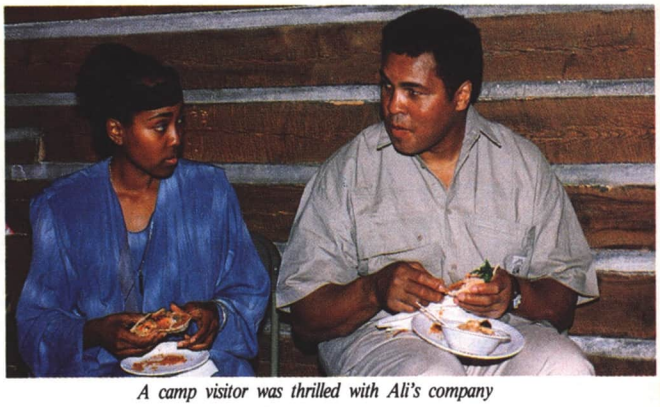


Once Ali stood over Liston; now he sits over him



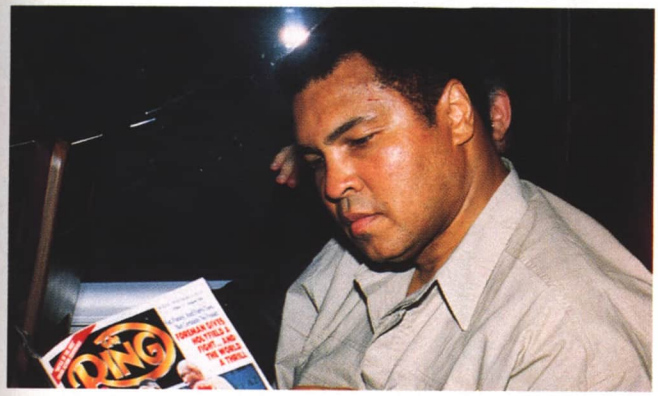
Cornerman Wali Muhammad at his favorite rock

Earnie Shavers remains one of Ali's most devoted fans

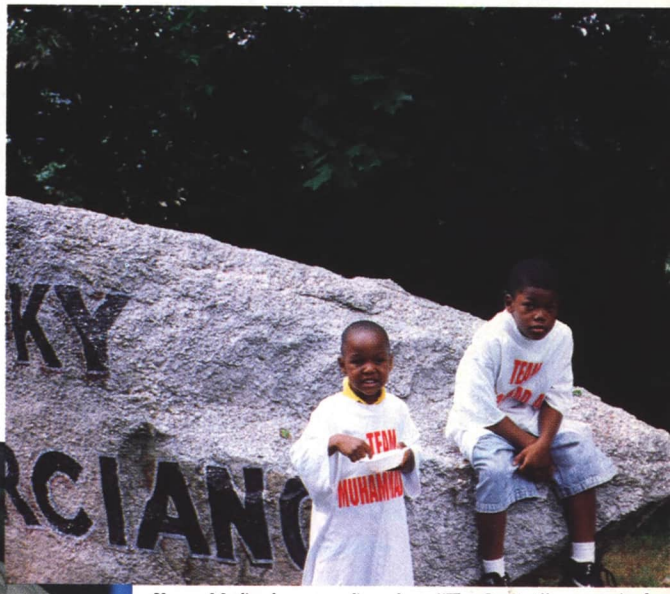


A camp visitor was thrilled with Ali's company

In June, Muhammad Ali and his biographer, Tom Hauser, invited selected members of the media on a bus trip to Deer Lake, Ali's famed Pennsylvania training camp. Also in attendance were some of the familiar faces of Ali's entourage. The camp, now a home for Muslim boys, is a collection of plain log cabins and large silver rocks, on which the names of some of boxing's great champions are painted. For one day, at least, Ali was "The Greatest" again, an ageless fighter who had returned to what he calls his favorite place in the world.



Ali reveals his literary tastes on the bus ride to camp



Young Muslim boys now live where "The Greatest" once trained

Adviser Jeremiah Shabazz was the victim of Ali's tickling fingers

At Deer Lake, Ali was alone only when he took time to pray

Photos By Steve Farhood

ROCKY MARCIANO

Undefeated Heavyweight Champion Of The World (1952-1956)

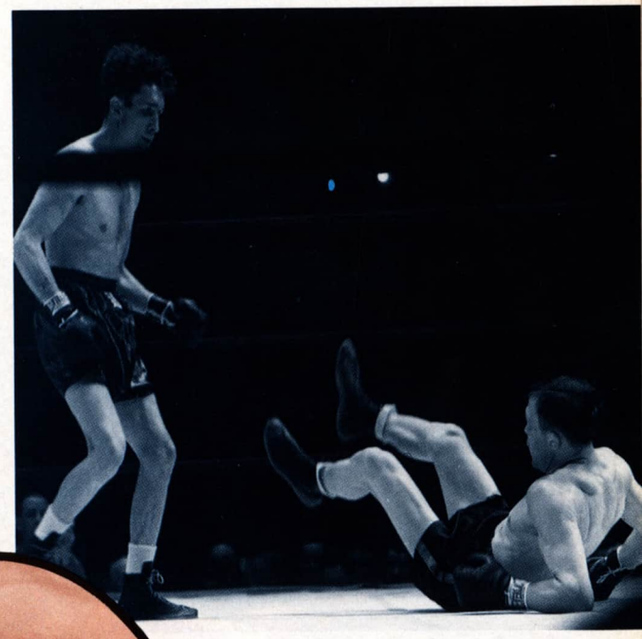
Born: September 1, 1923
Died: August 31, 1969
Record: 49-0 with 43 kayos

He Wanted To Fight Forever

*Ambers' arm is raised after he regained the lightweight title from Henry Armstrong in a major upset in August 1939 (left). **The Ring** paid tribute to Ambers by featuring him on the cover in November 1940 (above).*

HOW LOU AMBERS WAS TRICKED INTO RETIREMENT

Ambers weighs in for his November 1936 non-title bout with Jimmy McLarnin, who was eight pounds heavier (above). McLarnin won via decision. Ambers wins the 135-pound crown for the first time, decisioning Tony Canzoneri in September 1936 (below). Al Weill, the shrewdest of all managers (right), guided Ambers' long career.



Ambers is dropped by lanky Texan Lew Jenkins in the third round of their Madison Square Garden title fight in May 1940 (above). Jenkins, whom Ambers called "the hardest puncher I ever saw," took the crown via third-round kayo, and won the rematch as well. Ambers poses with Pedro Montanez (below) before their September 1937 title fight. Ambers won by majority 15-round decision at New York's Polo Grounds. Five months before, Montanez had outpointed Ambers in a non-title bout.

By Phil Guarnieri & Roger Mooney

The telephone rang in the New York City office of Al Weill. Former lightweight champion Lou Ambers, the fighter he once guided to the lightweight championship of the world, was on the line. Weill was expecting the call.

"Al," he said, "I want . . . "

"You want to fight again," Weill interrupted. "Then come down to New York. I got something for you."

It had been several weeks since Lew Jenkins had knocked out Ambers in the seventh round of their bout on February 28, 1941. Weill, Ambers' longtime manager, and Charlie Goldman, his trainer, had not wanted the Jenkins fight. They knew that their fighter had lost a step since his career-highlight victories against Tony Canzoneri and Henry Armstrong. Jenkins had kayoed Ambers in the third round of their first bout almost a year earlier, but Ambers, insisting that he was the victim a lucky punch, convinced Weill to set up a rematch.

(Continued on page 69)

Make Him The Underdog But Don't Bet Against Him

Thomas Hearns defeated 2-1 favorite Virgil Hill in a most unexpected way: by outboxing the defending WBA light heavyweight champion. Hearns, 32, revived his career by impressively winning a unanimous decision.

By Ed Maloney

In *The Shootist,* John Wayne played an aging lawman who reluctantly took on the most dangerous gunslingers of his day. Wayne's character, John Books, was a legend, and every man who confronted him felt deep inside that he could be the man to rob him of that legend. But after confronting Books, all he would wind up feeling deep inside was a chunk of lead.

Thomas Hearns likes John Wayne as much as any red-blooded American (with the possible exception of Tommy Morrison). Assuming he's seen *The Shootist,* he has an appreciation for Books that few people would understand.

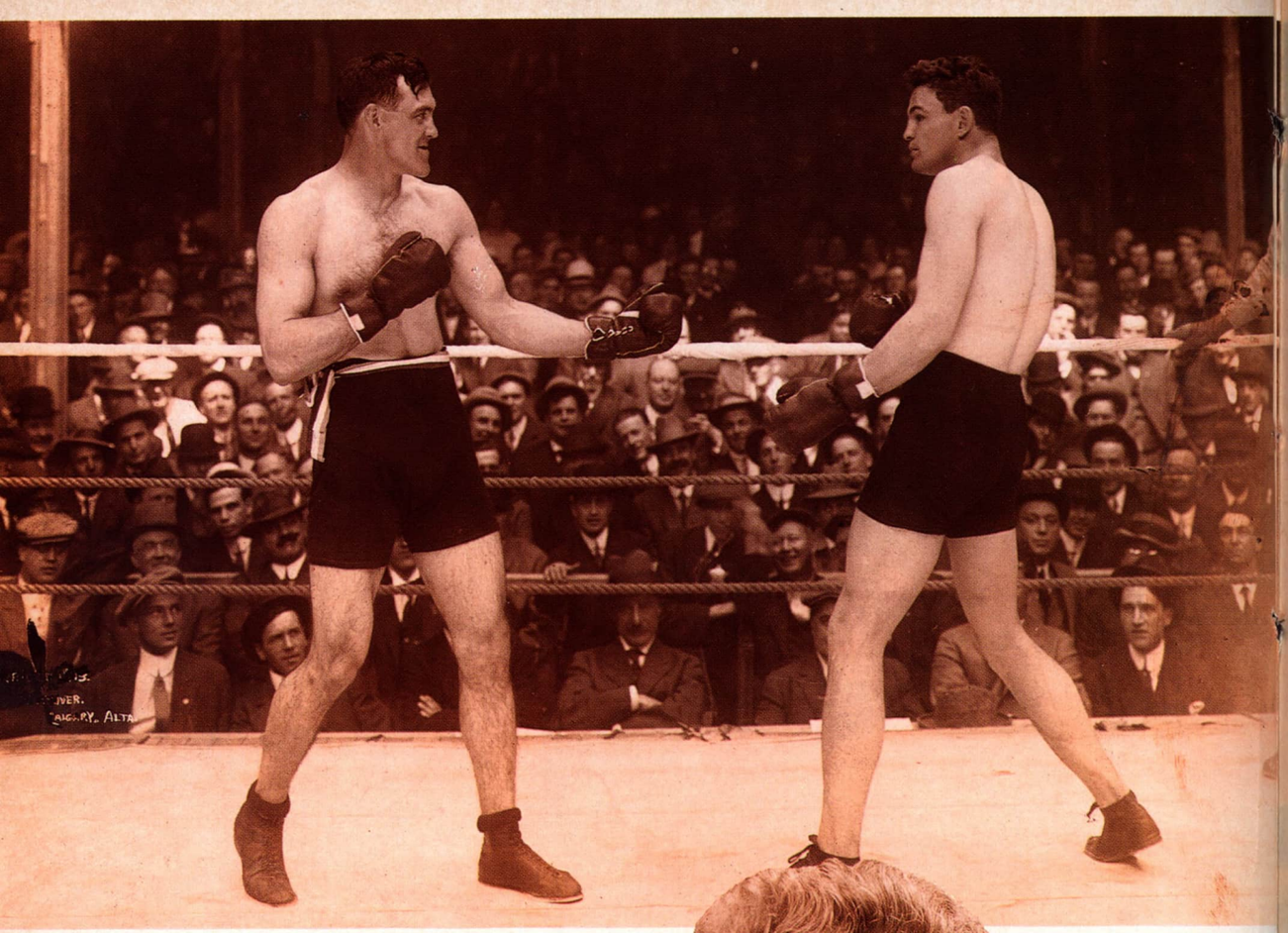
Hearns, a veteran of 54 fights and some of the most exciting championship bouts of the 1980s, has become in recent years a marked man for underpublicized champions in the light heavyweight and cruiserweight divisions, gunslingers who know that a victory over the "Hit Man" would represent a valuable notch on their gun belts. The fact that Hearns recently captured the WBA 175-pound championship from one of those men makes him an even more inviting target.

Given his performances over the last three years, the 32-year-old Hearns indeed appeared as if he were ready to be taken. In the eyes of many fans, the oddsmakers, and the boxing media, he had sunk to the level of opponent, albeit superstar opponent.

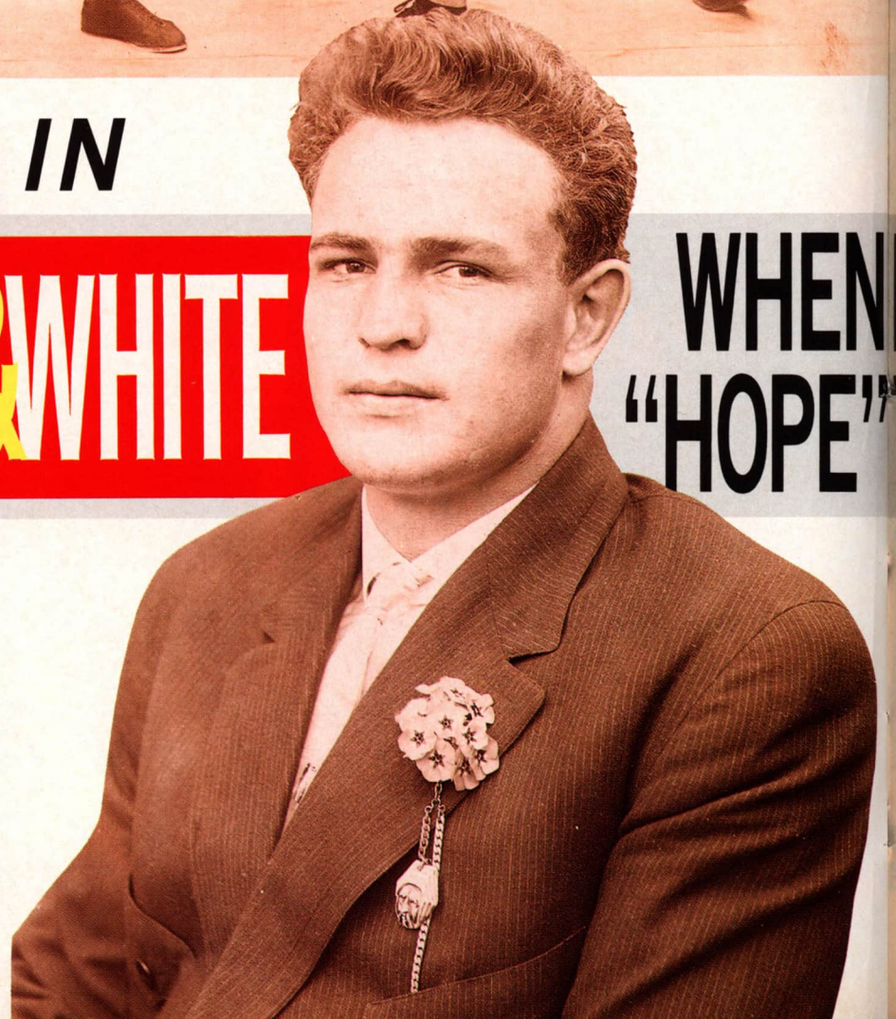
The man who left granite-chinned champions Pipino Cuevas and Roberto Duran motionless on the ring floor, and who helped make Marvin Hagler Marvelous, had not stopped a world-class opponent since 1987. After a shocking third-round kayo loss to Iran Barkley in June 1988, and a shaky decision over James Kinchen five months later, it looked as though his career was just about over. He did stun the boxing world by dropping Sugar Ray Leonard twice en route to a draw most believed should have been scored a victory in June 1989. Hearns' legend was revived, and gunslingers the world over took notice.

Michael Olajide, he of quick but low-caliber pistols, was the first to hit town. In that fight, an uninspired Hearns wouldn't, or, according to

(Continued on page 66)



BOXING IN BLACK&WHITE



Top: McCarty (right) and Arthur Pelkey square off before the start of a bout that ended in tragedy. Right: This photo was taken on McCarty's 21st birthday. Considered the most serious threat to heavyweight champion Jack Johnson, the handsome, Adonis-like, 6'3" Luther was known throughout America as the "White Hope Champion."

After collapsing in the first round (Pelkey had not landed even one solid blow), the limp body of McCarty was gently carried from the ring and laid out on the grass outside the arena. A desperate but futile effort was made to revive him. At the top of the photo, Billy McCarney, his hands clasped behind his head, bursts into tears upon realizing what has happened.

McCarty mastered the fine art of cowboying while in his teens. Steer wrestling, bronco-busting, and bull riding came naturally.

WHEN LUTHER McCARTY GAVE "HOPE" TO A HATEFUL WORLD

By Peter Ehrmann

New Year's Day, 1913, was no holiday for Rhoda McCarty. The 21-year-old buxom blonde was peeling potatoes in Fatty Howard's saloon in Moorhead, Minnesota, to support herself and her 20-month-old daughter, Cornelia. They'd been on their own since Rhoda's husband had ditched them more than a year earlier. She'd had him arrested once before for failure to support, and he'd promised to settle down and be a good provider. But Luther McCarty was just an overgrown kid who had tried a lot of jobs in his 20 years and had given up on them all, and soon he was gone again.

But on that first day of 1913, Luther started a new job that held a lot of promise, although when somebody came into the cafe and told Rhoda that her long-lost husband had just won the heavyweight championship of the world, she just looked up from her potatoes and asked, "What difference does it make to me?"

It made a big difference to a lot of people because "Lute" McCarty was big and strong and, best of all, Caucasian, and the last attribute had been in desperate demand ever since Jack Johnson, who was big and strong and black, took the heavyweight title from Tommy Burns in 1908. The frantic search for a white man to remove the stain on the greatest title in sports had brought old Jim Jeffries out of retirement in 1910 to fight Johnson, but the grinning, gold-toothed Johnson had humiliated Jeff and every other white boxer who'd answered the national call to save the honor of the race.

(Continued on page 58)

The meticulously kept grave of McCarty in Piqua, Ohio, which was designed and paid for by his father. It served as a shrine for local cowboys, curious tourists, and boxing fans.

THE RING ALL-TIME COMPUTER TOURNAMENT

THIS MONTH: THE LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

Boxing fans are forever debating the relative merits of the greatest champions in history. While ***The Ring's*** *exclusive computer tournaments aren't intended to answer all arguments, we're sure you'll find them entertaining—and as realistic as is possible.*

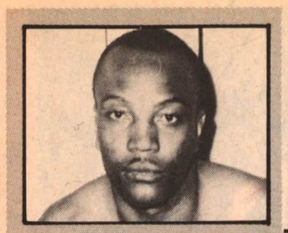
The idea is simple: Editor-in-Chief Steve Farhood, working in conjunction with tournament adviser Patrick Premo and computer programmer Jim Trunzo, chooses and matches eight champions per division. Using the program he developed for Lance Haffner Games, Trunzo then runs the 15-round matchups through his computer.

Lance Haffner's TKO Professional Boxing Game is a computer simulation of the sport of boxing. The program runs in compiled basic and consists of several thousand lines of code. More than two dozen routines and subroutines cross-check such factors as ring position, the fighters' physical condition, accumulated damage, status of cuts, and special strategy, if any, that is used. In addition, almost 100 variables are constantly monitored during a given fight.

The fighters have been rated in more than 30 categories, including obvious ones, like defense, punching accuracy, strength of chin, hitting power, and ring generalship. Less obvious, but equally important areas, that are factored into each fight are ability to take punishment over the course of a fight, susceptibility to cuts, ability to counterpunch, relative ability to cope with different styles, and the level of competition faced during a career.

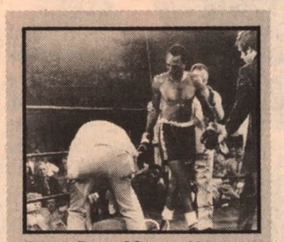
The rest is up to your imagination.

THE QUARTERFINALS

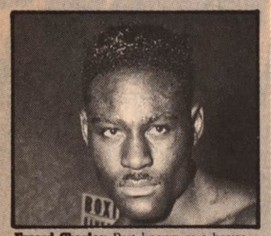


Bob Foster: At 6'3", held physical edge over almost all foes . . . Despite awesome power, wasn't successful as a heavyweight . . . Won crown with kayo of Dick Tiger in May 1968 . . . Defended against, among others, Mike Quarry, Vicente Rondon, Jorge Ahumada, and Pierre Fourie . . . Made 14 defenses before vacating . . . Record: 56-8-1 (46).

Maxie Rosenbloom: Distinctive in and out of the ring . . . Slapped more than he punched, hence only 19 kayos in 299 fights . . . It was written that he did his roadwork on the dance floor . . . Won title by outpointing Jimmy Slattery in June 1930 . . . Made seven defenses before losing to Bob Olin in November 1934 . . . Record: 223-42-32 (19) with two no-contests.

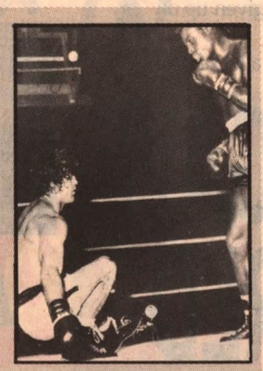


Foster-Rosenbloom: No secrets here: Foster leads with his jab in an effort to find his punching range, and "Slapsie Maxie" jabs in an effort to disturb Foster's rhythm. Rosenbloom steals the first two rounds, but in the third, Foster begins to walk through Rosenbloom's blows. In the eighth, Foster pins his slippery foe against the ropes. Rosenbloom rebounds in the ninth, but is overconfident in the 10th and gives Foster an opening. A hook drops Rosenbloom. He rises at six, but is rescued seconds later. Foster is ahead on all cards. **Foster by 10th-round TKO.**



Ezzard Charles: Best known as a heavyweight champ, but before his reign, was a dominant 175-pounder . . . Defeated, among others, Joey Maxim, Archie Moore, and Charley Burley . . . Master boxer with surprising power . . . Never fought for the crown, but won vacant heavyweight title in June 1949, [illegible] Joe Walcott . . . Record: 96-25-1 (58).

Victor Galindez: Argentine stood only 5'10", and countered well in close . . . Suffered from sensitive skin . . . Won vacant WBA title by stopping Len Hutchins in December 1974 . . . Made 10 defenses before being dethroned by Mike Rossman . . . Won the rematch, but was stopped by Marvin Johnson in next effort . . . Record: 55-9-4 (34) with two no-contests.



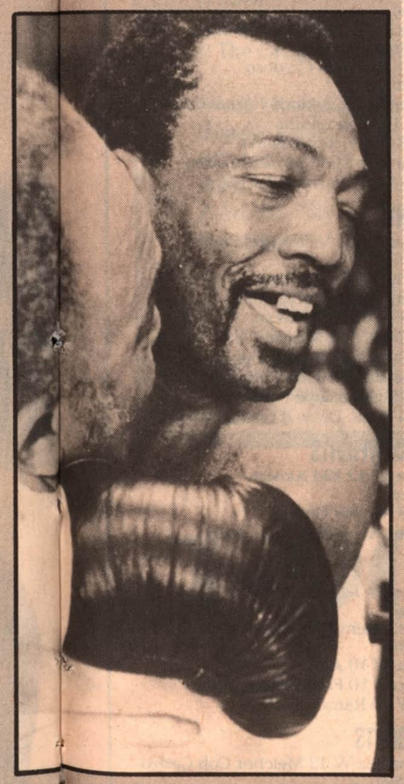
Charles-Galindez: Galindez is the bull and Charles the matador. Charles starts quickly, outpunching the Argentine 2-1. But by the fourth, Galindez begins to work in close and force a brawl. Charles finds his rhythm in the seventh, cuts his foe, and assumes command. Jabs and crosses penetrate Galindez' guard. The referee almost steps in during the eighth, and again in the ninth, as Charles dominates. The late rounds are uneventful, and Charles cruises to the finish, winning by scores of 147-136, 145-138, and 146-139. **Charles by unanimous decision.**

THE SEMIFINALS

Foster-Charles: Charles attempts to keep the fight at a distance. Foster jabs well, and buckles Charles' knees in the fourth with a right. Foster explodes in the fifth, scoring a knockdown with a double hook. But he can't finish his cagey foe, who shows tons of heart. Foster returns to his boxing mode in the sixth. In the eighth, Charles takes advantage, pinning Foster and firing combos. Rounds nine, 10, and 11 are close, with Charles doing just enough to take each stanza. The fight takes a shocking turn in the 12th, when Foster's first punch, a short hook, staggers Charles. The followup cross produces a knockdown. Charles rises at the count of six, but an uppercut splits his lip and knocks him into the ropes. After two vicious hooks open a cut over his left eye, the fight is stopped. Foster is ahead on two cards, with the third even. **Foster by 12th-round TKO.**

THE FINAL

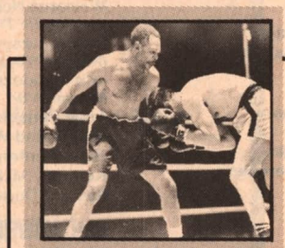
Foster-Moore: Foster's habit of starting slowly continues, as Moore smothers his taller opponent's power blows and works the body. By the fourth, Foster finds a rhythm and penetrates Moore's cross-armed defense with jabs. Moore is careful in his effort to get inside and clearly loses the fourth, fifth, and sixth. The seventh is particularly dull, with both fighters feinting, clinching, and waiting for second winds. Early in the eighth, Foster suddenly turns the fight, just as he had done in his semifinal vs. Charles. A single hook to the side of the head drops Moore, and, 30 seconds later, a power jab downs him again. Moore rises and answers with a pair of hooks, but he seems lifeless. With less than a minute gone in the ninth, Foster strikes with a left uppercut and Moore freezes. A followup one-two lands cleanly, and the Mongoose pitches forward, landing face-first. The count is a mere formality. After eight rounds, Foster led by scores of 76-75 (twice) and 76-76. **Foster is the winner and champion by ninth-round kayo.**



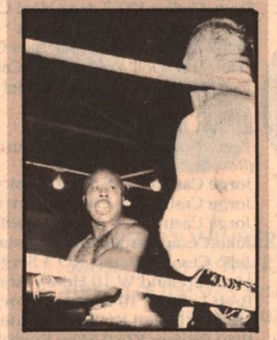
NEXT MONTH: THE HEAVYWEIGHTS

THE FINAL

THE SEMIFINALS

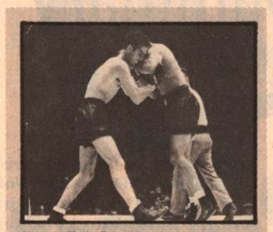


Conn-Moore: For most of the first five rounds, Conn boxes brilliantly, countering, dancing, and frustrating Moore's offense. He seems too fast, and in the sixth, he tries for the kayo. Two uppercuts shake Moore, and Conn takes the round by 10-8. Moore finally heats up in the seventh, cutting off the ring and working the Irishman's body. He accelerates in the ninth, and begins to dominate the way Conn did early. Moore enjoys a big 12th round, when a right staggers Conn and a combo sends his mouthpiece flying. The pace slows in the 13th, but Moore's comeback resumes in the 14th, when a lead right again hurts Conn. The fighters trade freely in the exciting 15th, but neither is strong enough to hurt the other. They receive a standing ovation at the final bell. The scoring: 143-142, 143-140, and 143-141. **Moore by unanimous decision.**

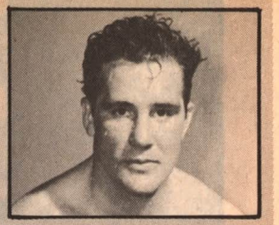


Loughran-Moore: Both fighters begin by probing. In the fourth, Loughran counters with a combo and scores a flash knockdown. From the fifth through the ninth, Moore moves forward and Loughran steps laterally and counters. Moore enjoys a big 10th; he hurts his foe with a body blow, then follows up. Loughran finishes the round with a mouse under his left eye and a cut on the bridge of his nose. Loughran won't abandon his plan, and he boxes well in the 13th. The last two rounds are almost too close to call. The scoring: 144-143, 143-140, and 144-142. **Moore by unanimous decision.**

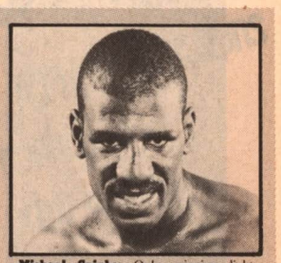
THE QUARTERFINALS



Conn-Spinks: To the amazement of many, a highly entertaining matchup. Spinks starts slowly, and Conn explodes in the second, scoring with combos and winning the round 10-8. Spinks awakens in the third, and threatens in the fifth, when he lands his first "Spinks Jinx." Spinks pummels the surprisingly aggressive Conn in the sixth, but can't land the finishing blow. The ninth and 10th feature toe-to-toe trading, and the championship rounds are close. Both fighters raise their gloves at the final bell. The scoring: 142-140 (twice) and 143-139. **Conn by unanimous decision.**

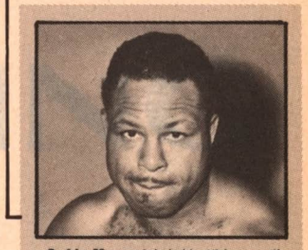


Billy Conn: Best known for effort at heavyweight, where he twice faced Joe Louis . . . Clever boxer with limited power . . . Won vacant title by outpointing Melio Bettina in July 1939 . . . Made three defenses . . . Decisioned Tony Zale in February 1942, then entered the service . . . Returned after war, but had faded . . . Record: 63-12-1 (14).



Michael Spinks: Only reigning light heavy champion to win heavyweight title, decisioning Larry Holmes in September 1985 . . . Tall boxer with big 'kayo punch, his "Spinks Jinx" right hand . . . Won WBA title via decision over Eddie Mustafa Muhammad in July 1981 . . . Made 10 defenses, including unification victory over Dwight Qawi . . . Record: 30-1 (20).

Tommy Loughran: Another 175-pound artist who lacked a kayo punch . . . Among first great Philadelphia fighters . . . Won vacant title by decisioning Mike McTigue in October 1927 . . . Made five defenses, including wins over Mickey Walker and Jim Braddock, then rose in weight . . . Record: 123-30-12 (17) with seven no-decisions and one no-contest.



Archie Moore: Inimitable "Mongoose" held title at age 48 . . . Holds all-time record for kayos . . . Intelligent, innovative, and master of cross-armed defense . . . Twice failed in effort to take heavy title . . . Won crown by outpointing Joey Maxim in December 1952 . . . Made nine defenses before being stripped . . . Record: 183-22-9 (129) with one no-contest.

Summary

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Tony Tucker W 12 Orlin Norris
Oliver McCall KO 4 Danny Wofford
Bert Cooper KO 9 Conroy Nelson
Alex Garcia KO 1 Rocky Sekorski
Phillip Jackson KO 6 Tony Willis
Phillip Jackson KO 1 Linwood Jones

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Dwight Qawi W 10 James Salerno
Derek Angol KO 3 Tee Jay

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Thomas Hearns W 12 Virgil Hill
(Wins WBA Title)
Jeff Harding KO 7 Bobby Jennings
Andrew Maynard KO 10 Ed Mack
Isaias Lucero KO 1 Jose Mireles
Alex Blanchard KO 4 Thomas Polo
Rodrigo Benech KO 8 Juan Alberto Barrero
Art Jimmerson KO 8 Paul McPeak
Aundrey Nelson KO 3 Mike DeVito
Anton Josipovic W 8 Matthew Saad Muhammad

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
James Cook W 12 Mark Kaylor
Henry Wharton KO 7 Frankie Minton
Marijan Benes KO 5 Salvatore DiSalvatore

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Steve Collins KO 3 Jean-Noel Camara
Roy Jones KO 3 Eddie Evans
Ralph Moncrief KO 8 Michael Olajide
Francesco Dell'Aquila KO 2 Calogero Serio
Joe Gatti W 10 Ralph Moncrief

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Terry Norris KO 8 Donald Curry
(Retains WBC Title)
Jorge Castro KO 8 Mario Gaston
Jorge Castro KO 1 Miguel Arroyo
Jorge Castro W 8 Ahmed Ikleff Hadjalla
Julio Cesar Vasquez KO 1 Judas Clottey
Julio Cesar Vasquez KO 4 Sergio Roncomi
Mark Breland W 10 Henry Anaya
Brett Lally W 10 Anthony Ivory
Mourad Louati KO 5 Said Skouma
Billy Bridges KO 2 Mike English

WELTERWEIGHTS
Meldrick Taylor W 12 Luis Garcia
(Retains WBA Title)
Buddy McGirt KO 7 Tyrone Moore
Crisanto Espana KO 4 Larry McCall
Patrizio Oliva W Disq. 12 Errol McDonald
Manning Galloway KO 8 Racheed Lawal
David Gonzales KO 7 Anthony Williams
Ras-I Bramble KO 7 Roger Brown
Donovan Boucher W 12 Mickey Hughes
Nika Khumalo KO 5 Horacio Perez
Kenny Gould KO 6 Jorge Hernandez
Roger Turner KO 4 Dennis Johnson

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Edwin Rosario KO 3 Loreto Garza
(Wins WBA Title)
Fred Pendleton KO 5 Eric Podolak
Rodney Moore KO 2 Sammy Fuentes
Vincent Phillips W 10 David Taylor
David Kamau W 10 Memo Cruz
Rodolfo Aguilar KO 7 Jean-Claude Lopy

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Jorge Paez W 10 Tracy Spann
Iwao Otomo D 12 Juhari
Osvaldo Corro KO 11 Eduardo Galan
Kelcie Banks W 10 Tim Brooks
Todd Foster KO 9 Tommy Hanks
Fidel Avendano W 10 Bryant Paden
Rowdy Welch KO 4 Carlos Marquez

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Daniel Londas W 10 Graham O'Malley
Manuel Medina KO 7 Augustin Salinas
Kamel Bou-Ali KO 3 Joey Jacobs
Gabe Ruelas W 10 Pedro Mendoza
Ed Hopson KO 4 Jessie Martinez
Renaldo Carter Tech. Draw 4 Arturo Padilla
Steve McCrory KO 8 Gerardo Sanchez
Steve McCrory W 10 Roberto Granciosa
Regilio Tuur KO 4 Tomas Arguelles
Regilio Tuur W 8 Jean Dibateza
Jorge Ramirez W 10 Rodolfo Gomez
Harold Warren KO 4 Leonardo Mancillas
Aaron Lopez W 12 Vicente Gonzales
Joey Negron W 10 Mike Cappiello

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Yung Kyun Park KO 6 Masuaki Takeda
(Retains WBA Title)
Troy Dorsey KO 1 Alfred Rangel
(Wins Vacant IBF Title)
Louie Espinoza KO 7 Moises Urbina
Tracy Patterson KO 5 Francisco Ortiz
Maurizio Stecca W 12 Fernando Ramos
Tom Johnson KO 1 German Vasquez
James Leija W Disq. 8 Miguel Arrozal
Kevin Kelley KO 6 Job Walters
Kevin Kelley KO 1 Richie Foster
Fabrice Benichou W 12 John Davison
Colin McMillan KO 7 Gary DeRoux
Tony Green KO 6 Enrique Sanchez

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Welcome Ncita W 12 Hurley Snead
(Retains IBF Title)
Daniel Zaragoza W 12 Kiyoshi Hatanaka
(Regains WBC Title)
Luis Mendoza KO 7 Joao Cardoso
(Retains WBA Title)
Jesse Benavides W 12 Orlando Fernandez
Jesus Salud W 10 Diego Avila
Jemal Hinton KO 1 Victor Navarro
Kennedy McKinney KO 6 Jerome Coffee
Richard Duran KO 1 Herman Torres

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Greg Richardson W 12 Victor Rabanales
(Retains WBC Title)
Pepillo Valdez KO 1 Darryl Jones
Thalerngsak Sithbaobay KO 2 Julian Danga
Eliecer Julio KO 1 Marino Tovar
Javier Leon KO 3 Cesar Mujica
Junior Jones KO 7 Alejandro Sanabria
Alejandro Sanabria W 10 Eddie Rangel
Cesar Soto KO 2 Guadalupe Rubio
Virgilio Openio Tech. Draw 9 Lucilo Nolasco

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS
Robert Quiroga W 12 Kid Akeem
(Retains IBF Title)
Jose Ruiz KO 6 Marcos Gomez
Armando Castro KO 6 Jose Juan Xool

FLYWEIGHTS
Yong Kang Kim W 12 Elvis Alvarez
(Wins WBA Title)
Muangchai Kittikasem KO 12 Jung Koo Chang
(Retains WBC Title)
Rodolfo Blanco W 10 Agustin Garcia
Ysaias Zamudio D 10 Francisco Montiel
Scotty Olson W 10 Ramon Solis

JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS
Humberto Gonzalez W 12 Melchor Cob Castro
(Regains WBC Title)
Pretty Boy Lucas W 10 Edgar Decena

STRAWWEIGHTS
Hi Yong Choi W 12 Sugar Ray Mike
(Retains WBA Title)

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2) Joe Frazier
3) George Foreman
4) Mike Tyson

What was Rocky Marciano's professional record?
1) 49-0
2) 27-4
3) 87-0
4) 56-9

The movie based on the life of Jake LaMotta is:
1) Somebody Up There Likes Me
2) Rocky
3) Raging Bull
4) The Great White Hope

Which city hosted the Mike Tyson vs. Buster Douglas fight?
1) Tokyo
2) Las Vegas
3) Atlantic City
4) London

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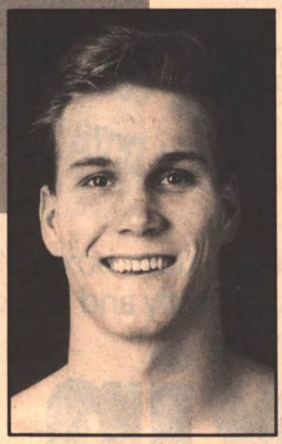
Ringside Reports

FIGHTER OF THE MONTH



It now seems certain that Van Horn is going to forever confuse us, winning fights he's supposed to lose and losing fights he's supposed to win. As a junior middleweight, he was an underdog vs. Robert Hines, whom he beat, and a favorite vs. Gianfranco Rosi, against whom he lost. After a rematch loss to Rosi in July 1990, the "Schoolboy" began to fade away. But he resurfaced as a super middleweight, of all things, and, in May, kayoed IBF champion Lindell Holmes in a major surprise.

Judging by his title-fight history, Van Horn will probably lose in his first defense against an unknown and then rebound to win the light heavyweight title by knocking out Thomas Hearns.

Darrin Van Horn

lorris' right was full of spice

Terry Norris KO 8 Donald Curry,

Palm Springs, California—WBC super welterweight champion Norris can now claim to have retired two of the best fighters of the '80s, Ray Leonard and Curry, who announced his exit after the fight.

For the first five rounds, Norris, 151, Campo, California, was too quick and swift for the 29-year-old Curry, 154, Fort Worth, Texas. The rounds were fast-paced and close, but Norris was busier, countering against his aggressive foe.

In the sixth, Curry rallied with a hook and cross, and Norris finished with a nosebleed. The challenger kept the momentum in the seventh, hurting Norris with a right, but with seconds remaining, Norris scored with a straight right and Curry slipped down. Referee Chuck Hassett correctly ruled a knockdown.

Curry was fatigued in the eighth, and a jab and a pair of rights sent him to the canvas, where he took the count while propped on his right elbow. Bleeding from the nose, he was counted out at the 2:53 mark.

"I was setting him up for the right hand all along," said Norris, 28-3 (15), who made his third defense. (6-1-91)

Paul Silverman

Hector Camacho W 12 Greg Haugen,

Reno, Nevada—The unrealized potential of Camacho was underlined in February, when he lost for the first time, via split decision to Haugen. After Haugen's postfight urine sample revealed traces of marijuana, a rematch was ordered by the WBO, and 4,258 fans braved unseasonably cold weather to come to the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. After Camacho emerged victorious by split decision, many of those fans left the arena shaking their heads. If anything, Camacho looked worse than in the first fight.

The first three rounds saw Camacho dominate, primarily with his right jab. In the third, a solid right-left to the chin shook Haugen for a second, but no more; it may have been Camacho's best combo of the bout. Haugen took the fourth, landing to the face and with straight lefts to the body, as Camacho began to slow down. Camacho came back to take the fifth and sixth, but Haugen continued to pursue and close the distance between the two.

Haugen scored well to the body to take the seventh; by the end of the round, Camacho looked like he'd already gone at least 12. Although he managed to squeak by with his jab to capture the eighth, Camacho seemed to be fading fast. Sensing an opportunity, Haugen had a strong ninth, alternating right leads to the face with digging lefts to the body. Camacho tried to rally in the 10th, but after a half-minute, he began to give ground. In the 11th, Camacho held repeatedly, and when he landed a left to Haugen's face after the bell, referee Bobby Ferrara took a point away.

The 12th saw a desperate Camacho grabbing, with his legs hardly able to hold him up. Sensing victory, Haugen, 28-4-1 (13), twice shook Camacho, 40-1 (16), with hooks to the jaw and finished the bout by backing his foe against the ropes. After the final bell, Camacho, fearing that he had lost, attempted to leave the

arena. He returned, however, as the scores were being announced.

Bert Clements saw it 115-112 for Haugen, but was overruled by Doug Tucker and Dave Moretti, who scored 115-112 and 114-113 for Camacho, respectively. *The Ring* had Haugen ahead, 115-113. (5-18-91)

Steve Nicolaisen

Rabanales charges Richardson

Greg Richardson W 12 Victor Rabanales,

Inglewood, California—Jerry Nathanson, a former chairman of the California Athletic Commission, said, "In 60 years of watching boxing, that's the worst thing I ever saw."

Nathanson was referring to the fact that defending WBC bantamweight champion Richardson, 118, Youngstown, Ohio, 29-4 (4), was awarded a split decision in his first defense, vs. Mexico's Rabanales, 117, 27-10-2 (15), before 5,438 incredulous fans at the Great Western Forum.

For six rounds, the 33-year-old champion utilized his six-inch reach advantage and moved and boxed as he had in his title-winning effort against Raul Perez in February. In the second half of the fast-paced bout, however, Rabanales worked in close and pounded the body. In the seventh, Richardson was cut at the corner of the right eyebrow—the result of a butt—and staggered by a left uppercut. Responding to chants of "May-hee-co!", Rabanales punched non-stop the rest of the way.

The Mexican was penalized for punching low in the fourth and for the cut-producing butt in the seventh, but most ringsiders saw him a clear winner. Arsenio Garcia (Mexico) agreed, scoring for the challenger by 115-113. But Marty Sammon (United States) and Angel Guzman (Puerto Rico) overruled him, scoring 115-111 and 117-112, respectively.

Bottles and beer cups were tossed after the decision was announced, but a riot was averted.

Rafael Mendoza, Rabanales' adviser, said he would file an official protest with the WBC. (5-20-91)

Muangchai Kittikasem KO 12 Jung Koo Chang,

Seoul, South Korea—Hard-punching Thai Kittikasem, 111½, retained the WBC flyweight title for the first time, registering a dramatic final-round stoppage of "Korean Hawk" Chang, 112, with 22 seconds remaining in a thrilling bout at the Olympic Gymnastics Hall. The 28-year-old Chang, who made 15 defenses of the 108-pound crown in the mid-'80s, scored three knockdowns, but his fading reflexes and lack of stamina ultimately cost him.

Boxing in his familiar tricky style, Chang attempted to crowd the upright champion. Both seemed nervous, and they boxed cautiously over the first four rounds. Early in the fifth, a light but well-timed hook floored Kittikasem. Seconds after the completion of referee Tony Perez' eight-count, Chang rushed in and again dropped the champion, this time with a right uppercut-left hook combo. But the Korean couldn't finish his elusive foe, and failed to follow up in the next round.

The seventh was fought hard and evenly. In the eighth, Kittikasem took control. He began to box with confidence, and Chang slowed considerably, missing with roundhouse blows. Wisely saving his energy, Kittikasem adopted a stick-and-move approach in the 10th. Nonetheless, Chang scored his third knockdown in the 11th, sending Kittikasem sprawling with a smashing one-two. The champion rose, and Chang subsequently used up his remaining energy in an attempt to win by kayo.

After 11 rounds, the fight was still to be won. Tom Kaczmarek had Kittikasem ahead, 104-102; Rudy Jordan had Chang ahead, 104-103; Chuck Giampa had it even, 103-103.

It was a one-round fight, and Kittikasem, 14-1 (10), was much fresher. He swarmed at the start of the 12th, punishing Chang, 38-4 (17), with long blows. A left-right felled the challenger, who barely beat Perez' count. Later in the round, a hook produced another knockdown. Chang again picked himself up, but this time Perez intervened. It was a well-received stoppage.

A rematch is a possibility, should Chang decide to continue boxing. His late fade, however, indicated that his stand in this fight, gallant as it was, may have been his last. (5-18-91)

Joe Koizumi

Taylor was troubled by Garcia

Yong Kang Kim W 12 Elvis Alvarez,

Seoul, South Korea—Recent flyweight champions haven't been able to hold on to the titles, and Colombian southpaw Alvarez was dethroned in his first defense by former WBC champion Kim via unanimous decision before 1,500 fans at the Hilton Hotel. Alvarez entered the ring as the favorite, partly because Kim was coming off a kayo loss to junior bantamweight champion Khaosai Galaxy. But in chasing the fleetfooted challenger, he failed to punch enough, and it cost him on points.

Kim surprised the 26-year-old champion by scoring a flash knockdown in round two. After that, Alvarez accelerated, but Kim's superior mobility and quickness allowed him to use the ring and penetrate with combinations. There was a scary moment in the fourth, when a clash of heads left both fighters bleeding. As it turned out, however, Alvarez' only chance for victory came late in the seventh, when a booming counter left sent the challenger flying. Kim barely beat the count of referee Ernesto Magana and was saved by the bell.

In the later rounds, Alvarez wasn't aggressive enough. Larry Rozadilla (USA) scored for the challenger, 115-111, as did Marcos Torres (Panama) and Silvestre Abainza (Philippines), both by 115-112.

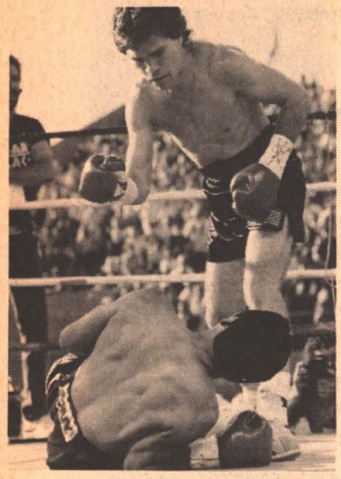
Kim became the fifth current world champion from Korea, joining Yong Kyun Park (featherweight), Sung Kil Moon (junior featherweight), Myung Woo Yuh (junior flyweight), and Hi Yong Choi (strawweight). (6-1-91)

Joe Koizumi

Meldrick Taylor W 12 Luis Garcia,

Palm Springs, California—WBA welterweight champion Taylor defended the title for the first time with a split decision over number-one contender Garcia, 146¾, Caracas, Venezuela.

The challenger was effective throughout by moving side to side, tossing occasional jabs and combinations, and staying out of the shorter Taylor's range. Taylor, 146¾, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, forced the action and threw punches in bunches, sometimes swinging wildly. Garcia, however, lacked the power to capitalize with counters.



Dorsey finished Rangel quickly

Taylor, 27-1-1 (14), emerged victorious on the cards of Neffie Quintana (115-113) and Fritz Werner (118-112). Rodolfo Maldonado, who scored for Garcia (117-114), did the challenger a favor. Taylor landed a much higher percentage of his punches and was the aggressor from start to finish.

Lou Moret was the referee.

(6-1-91)

Paul Silverman

Troy Dorsey KO 1 Alfred Rangel,

Las Vegas, Nevada—Seven-to-five underdog Dorsey won the vacant IBF featherweight title the easy way—via one-round, one-punch kayo on the Hearns-Hill undercard outdoors at Caesars Palace.

Dorsey, 126, Mansfield, Texas, 12-3-4 (10), became the first American to win world titles in both boxing and kickboxing. He had failed twice in 1990 efforts to dethrone former 126-pound titlist Jorge Paez.

The 24-year-old Rangel, 125, San Antonio, Texas, 22-7 (13), entered the ring bone-dry, and after a short feeling-out process, Dorsey swarmed, moving inside to score with three rights. Seconds later, he connected with a right over Rangel's jab, and Rangel dropped hard. His leg twitching and his mouth bleeding, he was counted out by referee Vic Drakulich at the 2:37 mark.

Rangel was taken to Valley Hospital, where X-rays disclosed a fractured right cheekbone.

"When you hit someone," Dorsey said, "you hope they're going to stay down. When Rangel dropped, I thought, 'Aw, he's going to get right up,' but when I looked back, I knew he was down for the night."

(6-3-91)

Jack Welsh

Darrin Van Horn KO 11 Lindell Holmes,

Verbania, Italy—Jumping two classes, former 154-pound champion Van Horn, 165½, Lexington, Kentucky, 46-2 (26), captured the IBF super middleweight title with an 11th-round kayo of defending king Holmes, 166½, Detroit, Michigan, 44-6-1 (36). At the time of the stoppage, Holmes, making his fourth defense, was ahead on two of the three cards.

Holmes started quickly before the 2,000 fans at the Palasport, hooking against Van Horn, who followed his plan by moving. The challenger's first big moment came in the fourth, when an overhand right dropped Holmes to one knee. For some reason, referee Robert Byrd ruled it a slip.

The 34-year-old Holmes was busier through the middle rounds, but his work rate sapped him of his energy. He showed a cut over the left eye at the close of the seventh, and seemed spent by the eighth. Van Horn was ready to accelerate in the 11th, and he opened the round with fire. When the fighters launched simultaneous hooks, Van Horn landed first, and Holmes sagged. A followup hook to the side dropped Holmes, who lay in ring center, eyes glazed, as Byrd counted him out.

After 10 rounds, Lucien Joubert and Albert Bennett both had Holmes ahead by 96-94. Benedetto Montella had Van Horn in front by the same score.

Van Horn said he wanted to make two defenses and then drop down to middleweight for a third bout with IBF junior middleweight titlist Gianfranco Rosi. Van Horn lost bouts to Rosi in 1989 and 1990.

(5-18-91)

Castro (right) faded vs. Chiquita

Humberto Gonzalez W 12 Melchor Cob Castro,

Las Vegas, Nevada—Mexico's "Chiquita" Gonzalez regained the WBC light flyweight title with a come-from-behind unanimous decision on the Hearns-Hill undercard outdoors at Caesars Palace. Castro, Gonzalez' coutryman, led on all cards at the halfway mark.

Gonzalez, 108, 31-1 (24), was a 5-1 favorite, but for six rounds, he seemed confused by the 23-year-old Castro's aggressiveness. The southpaw champion, 108, 29-3-4 (14), pressed his taller foe, scoring with combinations on the inside. In an effort to answer, Gonzalez, 25, switched to southpaw, but remained slower and less accurate.

In the seventh, Gonzalez turned the fight, suddenly landing to the head and especially the body. He took four straight rounds, as Castro lost the pop in his punch. The champion, who was making his first defense, rallied briefly in the 11th, but by that point, he already needed a kayo to win.

Tony Perez (United States) and Keith McDonald (United States) both scored 116-112, while Ray Solis (Mexico) saw it 116-113.

"I had to pressure Castro," Gonzalez said. "My road to victory really came in the seventh and eighth rounds, when I went to the body. I was in great condition."

Gonzalez is hoping to make a future defense against IBF 108-pound champion Michael Carbajal.

(6-3-91)

Jack Welsh

Ricardo Lopez KO 8 Kimio Hirano,

Shizuoka, Japan—Displaying superior speed, skill, and power, unbeaten Mexican Lopez, 103½, scored a well-received stoppage over Japanese southpaw Hirano, 105, and retained the WBC strawweight title for the first time before 5,000 fans at the Kusanagi Gymnasium.

It was a lopsided affair, and the champion absorbed no significant blows while battering Hirano at will. Again and again, Lopez scored by circling, then firing one-twos and left uppercuts. Hirano, 24, seemingly had no game plan and simply walked toward the champion.

In the third, Hirano suffered a cut over his right eye, and he bled for the rest of the fight. In the eighth, a flurry, punctuated by a left-right, and then a hook and another right, sent the challenger sprawling. American referee Rudy Ortega called a halt at the 1:42 mark, and no one from Hirano's camp objected.

Scoring after seven rounds: Herbert Minn (United States), 70-62, Chuck Hassett (United States), 70-63, and Hwang Soo Yuh (Korea), 70-65. Lopez raised to 27-0 (20). Hirano, formerly the national junior flyweight champion, dropped to 9-4-3 (1).

Lopez' next defense will come against Korea's Kyung Yun Lee, WBC International champion Asawin Sordusit, or Thai Chana Porpaoin. His ultimate goal is to rise in weight and challenge IBF junior flyweight champion Michael Carbajal. ■

(5-19-91)

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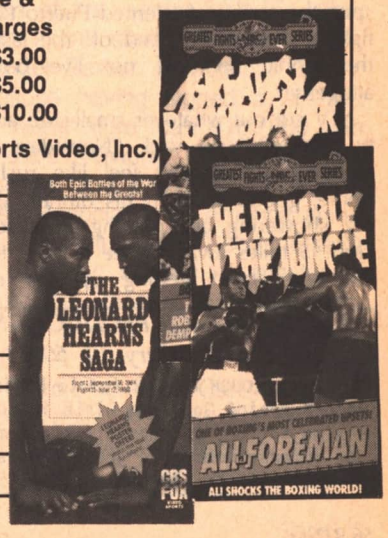

Ethnic Matchups

(Continued from page 25)

and c'mon and fight!' We were hot at one another. And the announcers had to put their microphones under the ring because they could hear us swearing for 19 rows back, and the fight was being shortwaved around the world."

Sportswriters also helped generate interest in ethnic matches. A promoter would tell a reporter that so-and-so on the West Side hated so-and-so on the East Side, and the writer would dutifully type an advance story on the matchup. Later, the writer could expect a crisp $50 bill taped under his ringside seat. The added expenditure was worth it; promoters regularly drew full houses.

The number of ethnic matchups began to decrease in the late-'40s, partly because World War II had shortened the careers of so many fighters. And by the '50s, promoters and matchmakers rarely considered ethnicity when putting together a card.

"By 1950, ethnic fights had disappeared around here because most of the groups had educated themselves and moved onto successful careers in other areas," said Bobby Goodman, vice president of boxing for Madison Square Garden. "First the Irish up and moved out of the cities, and to the suburbs. Then the Jews followed, and after them, the Italians. And with all of them went the golden age of boxing."

Added Al Braverman, the director of boxing for Don King: "Ethnic fights were simply a product of their times. We're talking the Great Depression. A guy had to do what he had to do to put money on the table for his wife and kids. But these days, as least as far as white guys are concerned, there's no more total poverty. No more, where's the next meal coming from? Quite simply, white guys now have more options. So why box?"

Hank Kaplan agrees with Braverman and Goodman, but also believes that, despite the arrival of talented Puerto Rican fighters, television killed off the last of the ethnic fights—if not live boxing altogether.

"TV cut out whatever small-club activity was left," he said. "Nowadays the working stiff doesn't feel like rushing home, gobbling down his dinner, shaving, showering, and rushing off to some club 15 miles away to see a fight, then worrying about getting up the next morning.

"Now it's easier for him to sit back with his beer and pretzels and tune in to fights anywhere around the country."

"While you still got rivalries with the Puerto Ricans, the Panamanians, and the Dominicans," said Al Certo, a former promoter who now manages welterweight contender Buddy McGirt, "it ain't like it was when you had the Wops, Jews, and Irish bashing each other. People can't get worked up over some other nationality like they used to for their own."

Although ethnic rivalries no longer spice East Coast fight cards, they have remained alive in California, peaking in the late-'60s and '70s, when the Inglewood Forum, the Sports Arena, and the Olympic Auditorium boasted full houses.

"The greatest rivalries out here are the local fighters of Mexican descent against the Mexican-Nationals," said Don Chargin, who has been promoting fights for 40 years. "And even though some of them are champions, the Mexican-Americans are never accepted by the people of Mexico. So that makes for big grudge matches and always guarantees a wild night. Latins are so nationalistic that it becomes more than a fight; it becomes a matter of national pride."

Some of the best matches during Southern California's golden age of boxing featured the immensely popular Bobby Chacon, a Mexican-American, vs. a pair of Mexican-Nationals, Ruben Olivares and Bazooka Limon.

But Chacon will always remember his 1980 decision victory over Limon. The crowd, which had been cheering for his opponent, turned by round four and rooted for Chacon the rest of the way.

"The people even threw money after the fight to show their appreciation," Chacon recalled. "You don't see that too often out here. So I'm standing there thinking how I won these people over, and all of a sudden a coin comes flying out of nowhere and hits me above the right eye. I needed more stitches from being hit by that coin than by being hit by Limon."

If a fighter doesn't have at least a drop of Mexican blood when he beats a Mexican in California, he can expect trouble. Chargin recalled the night in December 1968 when Mexican-Nationals rioted at the Forum in Inglewood after Australia's Lionel Rose retained the bantamweight title by split decision over Mexico's Chucho Castillo. Police and ushers had to put up barricades in front of Rose's dressing room as angry Castillo partisans tried to get at the champion. The enraged fans subsequently raged in the parking lot, smashing windshields and setting cars on fire.

Judging by the recent title fight at the Forum between champion Greg Richardson and Mexican-National Victor Rabanales, the atmosphere hasn't changed. Richardson, a black bantamweight from Ohio, won a highly disputed decision, which drew a shower of debris from the pro-Rabanales crowd. Beer cups and bottles were tossed toward the ring, and though a riot was averted, one of Richardson's cornermen, Jimmy Rajan, said he was hit in the face with a bottle.

"Ethnic fights may have died years ago in the East," Chargin said with a chuckle, "but they're still going on out here."

In Southern California, a lively rivalry featuring a Mexican-American vs. a Mexican-National can still generate excitement, as proven by the pair of classic title fights waged by 122-pounders Daniel Zaragoza (National) and Paul Banke (American) in 1989 and 1990. But the focus of the promoters is changing. The Olympic Auditorium, which drew a fervent Mexican crowd for decades is closed, and the 20,000-seat Forum now markets its shows for an upscale crowd.

"We're not concerned—for better or worse—about matching a Mexican-National with a Mexican-American," said John Beyrooty, the Forum's boxing publicist. "If it happens, it happens. But the intent isn't there as in the old days. We charge big money, and [Forum owner] Jerry Buss wants only to put on competitive fights."

Clearly, boxing is changing, and ethnic matchups are changing with it. Gone forever are the days when the Irish-Jewish-Italian triangle stirred the passions of both matchmakers and ticket-buyers. In England, however, fight fans still dream about a heavyweight who can kayo the best American big man, and in the Far East, a new rivalry has been created; many of the top Russian professionals have relocated in Japan and captured some of that proud country's national titles.

So you see, ethnic rivalries haven't entirely disappeared. They've simply relocated. ■

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Oba Carr

(Continued from page 21)

in front of more Nikons and talked to more notebooks than he cares to remember. Breland has befriended Carr, and, on this morning, went out

of his way to kid with him. But his role is not that of a big brother, just a friend who respects Carr's talent. And the feeling is mutual.

"Oba has what it takes; he's a good little fighter," Breland said. "He tells me that he used to watch me when I was coming up. He asks me a lot of questions. He wants to know about all the things that go on in boxing."

Strengthened by the security of his friends, Carr nevertheless seemed unable to adjust to the milieu: baby oil, strobe flashes, and self-indulgent poses. On cue, he was able to summon a smile. That aside, he was all eyes and ears.

"Everything is moving so fast in his life," said Emanuel Steward, Carr's manager and the mastermind of the Kronk gym. "He's so inquisitive right now. We'll be on the plane going someplace and the whole team will be talking and laughing and he'll sit there and just listen and watch. Then, later that evening he'll say to me, 'Manny, why did that guy have brown shoes on with a blue suit?' And I just say, 'Oba, I didn't even notice that.' "

What Steward has noticed in his five years with Carr is that there is something special about him when he climbs into a ring.

One of the first times Steward saw Carr fight was at the State Junior Olympics in Flint, Michigan. To those who followed amateur boxing in Detroit, the fight, which pitted Carr, 14, against Scotty Lamphere, was the equivalent of Hagler-Hearns.

"They didn't come up for air," Steward said. "Oba won, but it was the type of fight you don't expect to see from a young kid. I said, 'There's an unusual kid here.' "

Carr grew up on Detroit's West Side and found it necessary to learn how to fight at a young age. On his eighth birthday, his father bought him a new bicycle. It was a yellow Huffy with blue tires and a high sissy bar. Carr, elated with his gift, zoomed off to play with some neighborhood kids. When he returned a short while later, his nose was bleeding and the yellow Huffy was gone forever. That was the day Carr asked his father, Eddie, who had boxed in the Marine Corps, to teach him how to use his fists. (If the story sounds familiar, that's because Muhammad Ali, then Cassius Clay, ventured into boxing after his bicycle was stolen in his hometown of Louisville, Kentucky.)

Carr won the National Junior Olympics at 15, the Amateur Boxing Federation Junior Championships at 16, and turned pro at 17, while still a senior at Cooley High School. He left behind an amateur record of 168-7 and an opportunity to fight for Olympic glory.

"I was a little hesitant about turning him pro so young," Eddie Carr said. "But the politics of amateur boxing were too much to overcome. It would have been too much of a gamble to try and make it in '92."

So they decided to gamble on professional boxing, and so far it has paid off. Carr, 18-0 (13), is ranked 12th by the IBF and, should he continue to win with the skill and aplomb of a veteran, it's very possible that he'll be a world champion by 1992.

For Steward, Carr's pro career has been a progression of pleasant surprises. In his fourth pro fight, Carr won a four-round decision over Simon Rengifo. Steward and Carr later found out that the promoter failed to reveal that Rengifo was a 10-round fighter. Carr remains unfazed about fighting men almost twice his age.

"I might be nervous a little, but never scared," he said. "When the bell rings, it's me and him."

After the Rengifo fight, Carr, a boxer-puncher who uses his speed and skill to take charge, reeled off eight straight knockouts, including a third-round kayo of veteran Philadelphia southpaw Anthony Fletcher. So far, however, some of his best moments have come in the gym.

When fellow Kronkie Dennis Andries returned home to England to defend the WBC light heavyweight title against Sergio Merani last year, Steward booked Carr on the undercard. Perhaps more impressive than Carr's second-round thrashing of Manuel Rojas were the beatings he gave longtime British star Kirkland Laing in sparring.

Before manhandling Laing, Carr had sparred with contender Courtney Hooper, who had lost a 12-round decision to then-IBF junior welterweight champion Meldrick Taylor. When Hooper visited the Kronk for sparring, he was preparing to fight Louie Lomeli. Carr, with only two pro fights on his record, did nothing to reinforce Hooper's confidence.

"He wasn't beating Courtney like an amateur beats a pro," Steward recalled. "He was beating him like a pro beats a pro. In the last round, when Oba was tired, he looked even better."

It is Carr's ability to tap his resources and excel under formidable circumstances that most impresses Steward.

"When I look at an athlete, I do not just look at his talent, but what goes on in his mind during adversity," Steward said. "'He's got the ability to explode with punches from all angles. He can punch from bell to bell. Leonard could do it and Ali could do it. But there are very few fighters who can do that."

Especially at the age of 19. Which can be both exciting and nerve-racking for the fighter's father.

"I'm not overprotective, but I'm very concerned about who he fights," Eddie Carr said. "I want him to progress just right."

Moving a young fighter is among Steward's fortes. He projects a father-like image and takes a sincere interest in his maturity in and out of the ring. He has prepared dozens of fighters for world title fights and will likely prepare dozens more.

"As he's developed, we made it a point to get guys he couldn't knock out," Steward said. "He's got to learn to fight when he's tired. That's what makes a great champion."

Which explains why Steward has matched him with rugged opponents like Martin Quiroz and David Taylor, both of whom forced Carr to go a full 10 rounds.

Also aiding Carr's development is that he has not been coddled emotionally. If he were not part of the Kronk team, and fighting for another manager or stable, he would certainly be treated as a superstar, or at least a future superstar; he would be spotlighted at all times. Steward praises the teenager, but Carr shares the attention of his mentor with the other young Kronk stars, Michael Moorer, Leeonzer Barber, and Jemal Hinton.

Despite having signed a six-fight deal worth more than $100,000 with the USA Network, Carr was introduced as Oba *Clarke* at the Boxing Writers Association of America annual dinner in June. HBO commentator Jim Lampley, serving as master of ceremonies, quickly corrected himself, but a point had already been made.

In Detroit, however, Carr has made his own point. He may, for the moment, live in relative obscurity, but he

(Continued on page 58)

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Oba Carr

(Continued from page 57)

is a rising star in Motown and to those who cover boxing.

"Right now, he has the raw resources to become a great fighter," said NBC boxing coordinator Kevin Monaghan. "We think he has a lot of promise. In an ideal world, I'd love to use Oba Carr."

Carr's quiet personality should not be mistaken for a lack of confidence. He feels that within a year he will be fighting for a world title, and doesn't care whether he challenges WBC champion Julio Cesar Chavez, considered by many to be the best pound-for-pound fighter in boxing, or newly crowned WBA champion Edwin Rosario. (As we went to press, Carr was expected to move to the top of the WBO's ratings and become mandatory challenger for champion Hector Camacho.)

"I have the strength to beat the older guys, but the thing that is getting me over is that I'm quick," Carr said. "I feel like I'm invincible. I train too hard. I'm too smart. I'm too slick. As long as I use my head, those guys can't beat me."

After delivering his words like a five-punch combination, Carr was still wearing his gameface.

"I guess that's the way I am," he said. "I'm not portraying an image. I'm somebody else outside the ring. I'm friendly, I'm always smiling. I'm just trying to be me."

That may be the most difficult part of his life. Oba Carr is surrounded by celebrities and role models, but, at 19, hasn't yet figured out just who he is. What he is sure of, however, is that one day he will be a world champion. ■

Luther McCarty

(Continued from page 47)

They were called White Hopes, and many of them came or were lured off farms and out of mines and lumber camps to put on boxing gloves and rescue the title from its desecrator, whose crime of being black was compounded by a very public fondness for white women. The dragnet for White Hopes kept boxing managers and promoters jumping, including one named Billy McCarney. He was called "Professor," but the B.S. associated with his title didn't stand for Bachelor of Science. Today he would probably run presidential campaigns, but back then, there was more money in developing White Hopes, and when McCarney found Luther McCarty, he used his considerable artistry to create a masterpiece.

McCarty was born on St. Patrick's Day, 1892, in a place called Driftwood Creek, Wild Horse Canyon, in Hitchcock County, Nebraska. His father was 6'8" and more than 350 pounds, and his mother was 6-foot and 200 pounds. She died when Lute was two.

According to some accounts, Lute was a champion bronco buster by the time he was five, and reveled in life on the open range, where he spent his days riding, roping, and practicing with a six-shooter. That, at any rate, was the line promulgated by Prof. McCarney later on. Other sources indicate that McCarty's main adolescent occupation was assisting his father, Anton, in the sale of a snake oil potion in the traveling medicine show operated by the senior McCarty, a part-Indian who, in the performance of his duties as a curer of rheumatism, toothaches, gout, and piles, was known as "White Eagle."

According to one account, Luther ran away from home at age 12, crossed the country by freight train, sailed the world on merchant ships, worked as a farm hand, lumberjack, and messenger boy, and ended up, in 1910, as a sparring partner in a Colorado training camp. He had his first fight in January 1911, against Watt Adams in Culbertson, Montana, as a late substitute for Yank Kenney, winning by second-round kayo, and hooked up with McCarney later that year.

Another account had Luther moving with his father to Sidney, Ohio, in 1907, where the future boxing champion became "one of the best sewer diggers in the county." On an August night in 1911, needing "two bits to buy some hash" (presumably the corned beef kind), he went up against a local fighter named Harry Hollinger and was stopped in a round. "You made a dub of me, Harry," McCarty is supposed to

have said, "but I'm going to stick to the game and show up some of you fellows before I'm through." Whereupon he went to Chicago, hung around Bill O'Connell's gym, and had six fights (and six kayos) before meeting Billy McCarney in December of that year.

McCarney's version, probably the least credible, was that "I took McCarty from his home, Driftwood Creek, Wild Horse Canyon, Hitchcock County, Nebraska, in 1910, and worked secretly with him for almost a year before I started him on his career."

In any case, pugilistic skills may have run in the McCarty family. Luther had a sister who performed in vaudeville under the name of Haze Kirkman for years before anybody heard of him. She was billed as "World's Champion Woman Bag Puncher."

However he got on the boxing path, all accounts agree that Luther's first public notice came when he kayoed Carl Morris, the original White Hope (and once piloted by Billy McCarney), on May 3, 1912. McCarty was 6'3" and weighed 200 pounds, but in a sea of large white heavyweight hopefuls, something else was needed to distinguish him from the rest. And here Prof. McCarney's B.S. was put to work.

"I decided," he wrote years later, "to make Luther a picturesque, colorful character. I prepared a grand stage setting, and the newspapermen, novelists, and fight promoters throughout the country aided my cause . . . I gripped the public with the story of the Western cowboy giant, the new White Hope who could whip any man in the universe."

McCarney dressed his fighter up like a primordial Tom Mix, with an oversized sombrero, buckskins, cowboy boots, a huge red bandana around his neck, and a horse hair rope in his hands. Pictures of Lute on horseback, roping calves, appeared in newspapers everywhere, and even after McCarney's greenhorn, pugilistically speaking, suffered back-to-back whippings by Hopes Jess Willard and Jim Stewart in his first New York appearances in August 1912, the Professor's brilliant publicity campaign kept McCarty the most talked-about of the White Hopes.

Luther loved it. He was, by all accounts, a very good-natured fellow, with an open and pleasant personality; and his younger days on the medicine show circuit with his father had been a good training ground for the ballyhoo campaign that he and McCarney whipped up. "McCarty is in good humor all of the time," said a caption under one newspaper photo of Lute, who was wearing a smile as wide as his sombrero. "When he fails to laugh, his manager calls several doctors on the job to see what is the matter with him."

McCarty's laughter, and the publicity juggernaut under him, grew even louder after he kayoed Al Kaufman and "Fireman" Jim Flynn in late-1912. And on January 1, 1913, Lute and Al Palzer were matched for what was initially called the "White Heavyweight Championship" in Los Angeles. But with public resentment of Jack Johnson at an all-time-high—the black champion had recently been convicted of violating the Mann Act, which proscribed taking women across state lines for "immoral purposes"—it was widely reported that the McCarty-Palzer fight "will be for the world's heavyweight championship, as sporting authorities have unanimously decided to eliminate Jack Johnson because of the Negro's unsavory reputation."

Promoter Tom McCarey put up a diamond-studded belt, and Luther McCarty won it by stopping Palzer in the 18th round.

There was much celebrating over the ascension of such an All-American, polite, respectful, gallant, and, most of all, white champion, and Luther's first edict from the throne endeared him even more to true sportsmen. "I will not," he announced, "meet any Negro, but will draw the color line absolutely."

At last, boxing had a worthy standard-bearer again.

Then somebody found Rhoda McCarty peeling spuds in a Minnesota roadhouse.

Celebrating his victory at the Ship Hotel in Venice, California, the Great White Hope went noticeably paler when newspapermen descended on him for an explanation about the wife and baby he'd left behind. Lute said it wasn't exactly true that he had deserted them, because he'd sent Rhoda $150 after a couple of recent bouts, and that "I intend to keep on supporting her and doing everything that a man should do."

Then he looked at his inquisitors and wondered, "Can't you keep this story out of the papers for me?"

They didn't, but it made little difference. In McCarty's place, Jack Johnson probably would have faced a lynch mob, but Lute McCarty wasn't Jack

(Continued on page 61)

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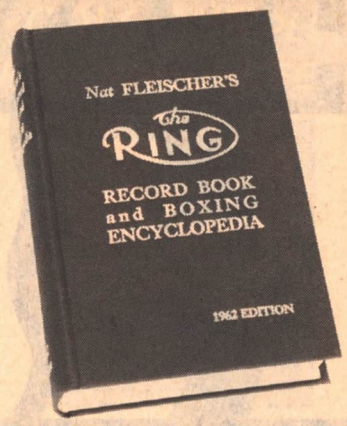

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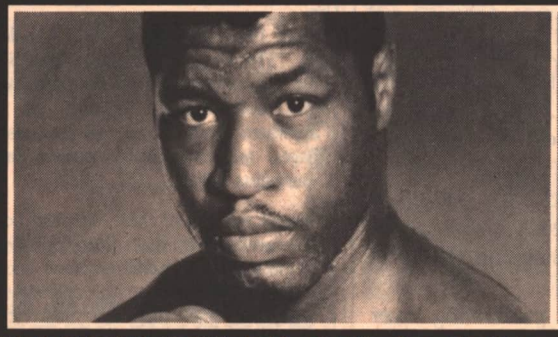

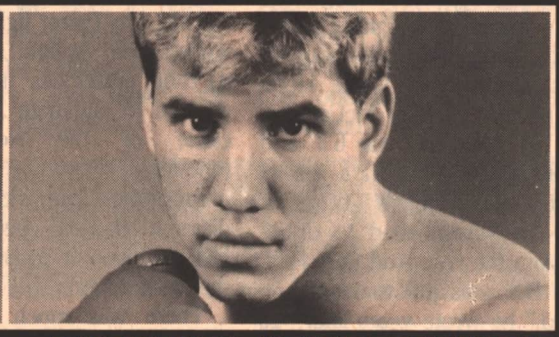

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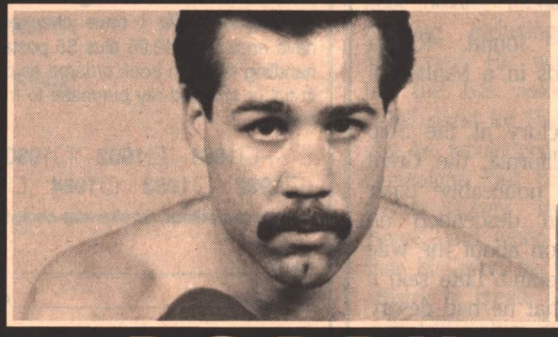

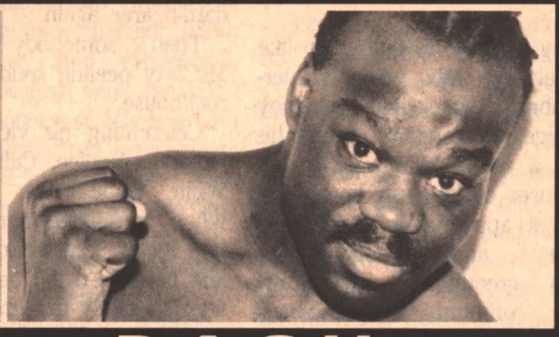

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Luther McCarty

(Continued from page 59)

Johnson, and that was good enough for most people, who went along with the *Milwaukee Sentinel* editorial that said: "For a number of years we have been humiliated at the spectacle of a big black man carrying the title of heavyweight champion of the world. It has been mighty humiliating, and we are all glad that some white man, no matter what his private history may be, has finally come into possession of that title by showing his worth, and because the American people have taken the title forcibly away from its black holder and conferred it ... upon the most promising of the white hopes. If Luther McCarty is to be commended for nothing else, he is entitled to great praise for his determination to never fight a Negro ... "

Before heading for New York and a vaudeville engagement that would feature him doing rope tricks, Luther, who'd received about $10,000 for beating Palzer, announced that he was sending his estranged wife $100, and that he would start a bank account for his daughter, "to which he will add gradually until the child is old enough to use it for an education." There had been talk of a reconciliation ("No, I'm not sore at Lute," Rhoda told the papers. "In fact, I always liked my big, handsome chap"), but Rhoda and Cornelia remained in Fargo, while McCarty cut a wondrous figure on stage and the dance floor.

Lute liked to dance, and after catching him in action, female journalist Estelle Lawton Lindsay described the effect on distaff hearts: "Six feet three inches of flexible muscle, devastating over a polished floor in corduroys, flannel shirt, flying bandana, and high-heeled cowboy boots, set off with jangling spurs ... and when the man inside the costume is the man inside the champion's belt—well, the havoc, the widespread devastation, the wreckage of affections can only be compared to the carnage committed on the countenance of Al Palzer."

The sheriff of Fargo wasn't so impressed. When McCarty stopped there at the end of January, he was dunned for a $29 grocery bill that his wife had been unable to pay.

Two weeks after a six-round tuneup against Jim Flynn on April 16, McCarty beat Frank Moran in a 10-round no-decision fight in New York that was not as exciting as Lute's visit a few days earlier to Mayor Gaynor, when he rode his horse up the steps of City Hall.

Nettled by growing murmurs about his refusal to meet top contenders like Billy Wells and Gunboat Smith, McCarty was in the ring again, just over three weeks later, on May 24. His opponent, Arthur Pelkey, wasn't a top contender, and when Lute entered the ring in Calgary, Alberta, at 1 p.m., he was relaxed and joked with McCarney. The bout was supposed to demonstrate to wary lawmakers in Alberta that boxing was a clean, safe sport, and before the opening bell, a minister got in the ring and remarked on the absence of overt brutality in the preliminaries, and suggested to the 10,000 spectators that the championship fight would be really no different than the honorable struggles engaged in every day of their lives. When he finished, McCarty smiled and crossed himself.

At the bell, the fighters sparred lightly. Pelkey landed a couple of jabs and there was a clinch. When they broke, Lute looked over to McCarney in his corner and winked. Then he seemed to go into a crouch, and all of a sudden, with no warning, he fell down. A startled referee Ed Smith began to count, and the crowd, not having seen much reason for the champion to go down and lay so still, howled in outrage. Some even tried to storm the ring, and a crew of Royal Canadian Mounties held them back while Luther McCarty was counted out.

The protests died away as the fallen fighter showed no movement. Doctors were summoned, and after working on McCarty for eight minutes, they pronounced him dead.

At first it was thought that he'd taken a hard blow to the heart, but after an autopsy, it was announced that the cause of death was a "dislocation" of the neck. Later it was surmised that the injury was actually caused by an earlier fall from a horse.

The shocking death of 21-year-old Luther McCarty, the Greatest White Hope of all, was the 57th boxing fatality to occur since 1903, but none before were, and probably none since, have been so romanticized and gilded into legend. Everywhere, that is, but at Fatty Howard's saloon in Moorhead, Minnesota. When a reporter went there to

(Continued on page 62)

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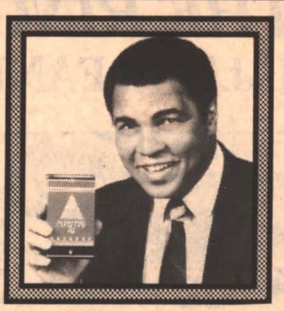

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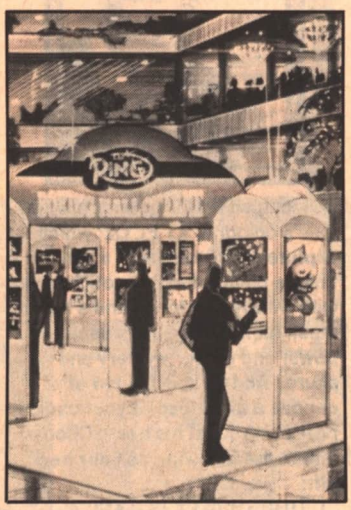

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McCarty

(Continued from page 61)

tell Rhoda McCarty of her husband's death, she had no time to talk. The supper crowd was due any minute.■

Peter Ehrmann, a frequent contributor to The Ring, is a freelance writer based in West Allis, Wisconsin.

Dave McAuley

(Continued from page 34)

was not in proper condition to fight.

"I was not right in my own mind for the second Bassa fight," he said. "Training from mid-December through January, February, and most of March had left me drained, and I was further weakened by a severe flu, which had kept me in bed most of the week prior to the fight night. It was almost a struggle to climb the steps up to the ring."

McAuley lost convincingly by unanimous decision, and the beating he endured had more of a profound psychological than physical effect on McAuley, who gave serious consideration to retirement.

"After now losing two attempts at the title," he said, "I reckoned there was little point in continuing my career. As far as I was concerned, this was the end of the road."

This was a quite understandable impulsive reaction for a man who in his youth held few premonitions that he would one day be a boxer, much less champion of the world. Although McAuley was naturally adept in an athletic capacity, it was friends, as opposed to any pursuit of romanticism, that lured him to participate in the sport.

"There was a boxing gym situated just down the road, and it became fashionable for lads my age to join," he recalled. "It was like joining a local football or athletic club, just something to do. I certainly never foresaw any great happenings until I began to apply myself, and consequently made steady progress."

As an amateur, McAuley won a national title and developed into a prominent and successful fighter, boxing regularly in international tournaments. Then he decided to sign with Eastwood, an affluent businessman who was firmly established in boxing circles. From the outset nothing came easy for the young Larne man who, in order to keep active, was forced to combat bantamweights and even featherweights.

"I recall one particular incident when I was training for an upcoming fight," he recalled. "A huge fighter walked into the gym, and I began joking to a fellow boxer that this must be his opponent. I was really enjoying this because the guy was so big, but I soon received notice that he was actually scheduled to fight me."

Relegated to supporting roles on McGuigan-headlined bills, he found that recognition was not forthcoming, and he supplemented his boxing earnings by working as a chef in his father-in-law's restaurant.

"On the night Barry McGuigan won his world title," he recalled, "I was fighting a gutsy performer called Bobby McDermott, and in the third round I endured a broken left hand. As soon as I felt it, I knew it was broken because the pain was excruciating. Nevertheless, my corner persuaded me to continue, but the pain was becoming unbearable. I was going to pull out when B.J. [Eastwood] came up to the corner and told me in fairly plain language that I would have to push myself on. I kept plugging away and never threw as many right hands in all my life. I caught up with him in the 10th."

But for Eastwood's intervention, McAuley would probably have suffered the first loss of his career that night. McAuley had responded with typical heart and courage, characteristics that deserved some reward. That came in June 1989, when, after twice failing to take Bassa's WBA title, he lifted the IBF version against Briton Duke McKenzie.

McAuley, cast in the time-honored role of underdog, was relentless from the outset.

"In the opening round," he said, "I landed a wide left hook to the body and I could feel the punch really sinking in through his ribcage. It took every breath out of his body, and I know for a fact that he never recovered from it. For the rest of the fight he was wary of being caught there again."

McAuley's fire consumed the ring, and by the final bell McKenzie was a well-beaten fighter.

In subsequent defenses, McAuley has boxed effectively to decision Dodi Penalosa and Louis Curtis, but was back on the warpath against Colombian Blanco—who knocked him down four

times!—and in the most recent fight, vs. Puerto Rican Pedro Feliciano.

"We received a tape of Blanco in preparation for that fight, and his most dangerous weapon seemed to be the left hook," McAuley said. "So my game plan was to keep away from this punch, but our mistake was that he had been fighting a southpaw on the video, and when he fought me, he clubbed me with right hands all the time.

"They were coming from the floor and the ceiling. You cannot avoid them all!"

Nor can McAuley be avoided by the boxing fraternity forever. A proposed match with IBF junior flyweight champion Michael Carbajal is becoming a distinct possibility. As the heavyweights go . . . will always be the ethos of boxing. But maybe a bout with the high-profile Carbajal will provide the Larne man with the big payday and acclaim after which he hankers. And then the 'Boy' who should be king of the flyweights may finally be recognized as such. ■

Brian Doogan is The Ring's correspondent in the United Kingdom.

Ali's Life And Times

(Continued from page 36)

What also concerned Hauser about his visit was his host's physical condition. Ali suffers from Parkinson's Syndrome, and Hauser wasn't certain how he'd deal with his shaking hands, his slurred speech, his frozen face, or the distant look in his eyes.

"I was really very unsure of myself," he recalled. "But when I came down to breakfast on the third day, there was Muhammad asking me if I wanted corn flakes."

On that morning in October 1988, Hauser saw a different Ali, happy and alert, and as sharp as ever.

"Although his speech was not what it once was," Hauser said, "I realized that Ali could make a significant contribution to the book. And that was essential to me if I was going to write it."

Later that day, Lonnie Ali told Hauser that it was important for there to be a definitive biography about her husband. She stressed that such a book had to put him in context not just as a fighter, but as a social and religious figure. Hauser agreed, but explained that he had to maintain editorial control; he wanted to write an open, honest account of Ali's life. The Alis agreed, and Hauser spent the next two years researching and writing.

Hauser had written 13 previous books on subjects ranging from national policy, to race relations, to public education, to his 1984 boxing tome *The Black Lights*. He had also been a Wall Street attorney, which gave him the background needed to understand the legal and financial aspects of Ali's career. And it didn't hurt that he had been recommended by Howard Bingham, Ali's personal photographer and his dearest friend.

"One of the problems with the earlier books about Muhammad is that they were written by people who didn't have access to him, or else they were manufacturing puff pieces," Hauser said. "I didn't want that."

Hauser pointed out that he had advantages no previous Ali biographers enjoyed. Because Ali is just three years older than him, Hauser was able to look back on his subject's career with a sense of perspective. He also had Ali personally contact the 178 people interviewed for the book, and Ali instructed each one to be candid. Ali's physicians were even told to release highly personal medical information.

Before he conducted his first interview, Hauser had to find a formula that would make the book work. After pouring through mountains of published sources, he decided the best approach would be an oral history. He then spent thousands of hours talking with Ali, members of his family, friends, and associates.

"I'd say about 50 percent of my interviews were conducted in person," he said. "And when I told people I wanted to talk about Ali, they'd say, 'How much do you want to talk? Two hours? Four hours?' "

There were, of course, those who were suspicious of Hauser's motives.

"The biggest problem was trying to establish the credibility of the project," he said. "But eventually word got around that I was a straight shooter, and wasn't working for the CIA."

Hauser can't estimate what his phone bills came to, but he figures he placed about 2,500 calls. Most sources, but not all, were easy to contact.

(Continued on page 65)

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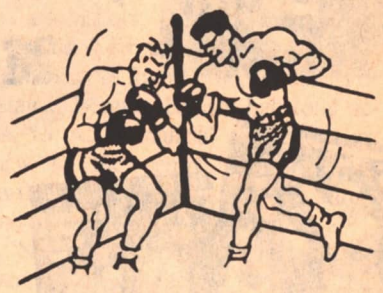

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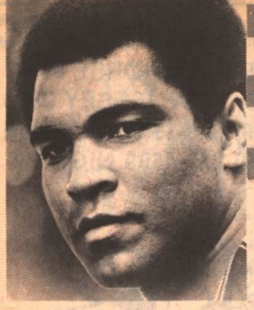

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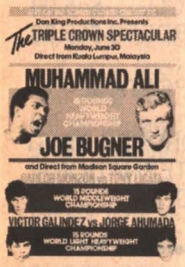

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Ali's Life And Times

(Continued from page 63)

"Surprisingly, Jimmy Carter was fairly easy," said Hauser, who interviewed a wide range of subjects. "You'd call up, write a letter, and the Carter Library would call back and say he'd be glad to do it. Then they'd give me a time to call, and we'd talk.

"But Richard Nixon was an incredible nuisance. I had to make a bunch of calls, write a letter, then I had to write more letters. Then I had to make more calls. I got jerked around and jerked around. It was too bad because it would've been interesting to talk to Nixon on the subject of Ali, because in Nixon I saw somebody who fanned the flames of racial hatred in this country for political gain and who prosecuted the war in Vietnam throughout his whole term as president."

Bob Hope, having entertained the troops in Vietnam, was another subject Hauser sought but was never able to reach.

"I thought a comment on Ali and the draft by Bob Hope would've been interesting," Hauser said. "And Hope said, through a representative, that he'd do it. Now, without exaggeration, I must've made 20 phone calls. Interviews were scheduled, but when I called, nobody was there.

"There were people, though, who just didn't want to do an interview. People like Veronica Porsche [Ali's third wife], who may want to do a book herself someday, and Don King. And I accepted that. What I resented, though, was being jerked around and led on by some people like Larry Holmes, who, although he's quoted in the book, gave me the runaround before finally refusing to do an in-depth interview."

After completing his research and interviews, Hauser sat down to write the book. But invariably more questions arose. So he would compile a list of questions and fly off to see Ali.

"My interviews at Ali's farm were often interrupted by visitors," he recalled. "At first, it bothered me because it interfered with my research, and I saw it as an invasion of Muhammad's privacy. But then I realized this was his life, and if that's how he wants to live."

When the first draft of the manuscript was completed, Hauser spent 10 days at Ali's home reading the book to him aloud, word for word, without distractions. Said Hauser, "We just said no visitors. Period. Flat. No."

During the reading, there were passages that Ali found objectionable. For instance, because Hauser had total access to Ali's financial statements, he knew to the penny what Ali was worth. But Ali didn't think that information was the readers' business.

"So I modified it," Hauser explained, "to get across the idea that Muhammad is not broke, but he's not the richest man in the world, either."

Other passages, Ali thought, made him look foolish. But Hauser stood firm. "This is what happened, this is your life story," he said, and Ali ultimately relented.

"All in all," Hauser said, "I can't think of any instance where a major figure gave a biographer such unconditional access to his life."

It was only after Simon & Schuster published Hauser's book—the first printing sold 72,000 copies—that he re-

(Continued on page 66)

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Ali's Life And Times

(Continued from page 65)

alized the profound effect Ali had had on him.

"I was deeply moved by how religious he is," Hauser said. "God has not been part of my hour-by-hour thoughts as I have lived my life. But Muhammad has given me an increased faith, which is a very nice gift to give somebody. And there's a warm feeling inside me knowing that in some small way, because of this book, I'll be remembered with him." ■

Thomas Hearns

(Continued from page 45)

some, couldn't, pull the trigger on his vaunted right hand. He dropped Olajide in the ninth round, but looked amateurish in trying to finish him off. As a result, Olajide survived the round, and, late in the fight, had Hearns in trouble.

"What you have to understand about Tommy is that he can rise to the occasion when he has an extra-special challenge," says Kronk cutman Ralph Citro.

Olajide might not have been good enough to bring out the best in Hearns, but Hearns' longtime manager/trainer Emanuel Steward wasn't too keen on waiting to see what a better fighter could do to his star pupil. He tried to convince Hearns it was time to retire. Hearns disagreed. Shortly after, a partnership, and more importantly, a friendship, ended. Hearns decided to pursue the rest of his career as his own boss.

Tired of strict diets, rubber suits, and saunas, Hearns moved up to light heavyweight, where he would challenge WBA titlist Virgil Hill at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas in June. Of the three reigning 175-pound champions, Hill was the most prominent. But his defenses against mediocre challengers David Vedder, Tyrone Frazier, and Mike Peak had underwhelmed everyone outside of his hometown of Bismarck, North Dakota.

Still, Hill, who was *The Ring's* top-rated light heavyweight, was considered fortunate to secure the division's best available payday.

"Tommy was shocked that he started out as a 5-1 underdog," says Hearns' new trainer, fellow Kronk alumnus Alex Sherer. "He always trained with fire in his eye, but that really fired him up."

Many saw the fight as a probable career-ender. But Hearns viewed it as an opportunity to prove his critics wrong by regaining the light heavyweight title and reestablishing himself as a powerful force. It was believed that Hearns would come out bombing with his right hand in a Russian roulette strategy: stop Hill early or go down swinging. Instead of the "Hit Man," what we saw was the reappear-

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ance of Hearns' alter ego, the technically brilliant "Motor City Cobra."

"Everyone talked about Virgil Hill's left jab," said Sherer. "Well, Tommy outjabbed the jabber. We worked on the jab a lot in training. We also worked on the left hook to the chin. Tommy's not known for his hook to the chin.

"Hill's known for his counter left hook, and we took that away from him and hit *him* with counter hooks to the chin and body. Tommy would catch Hill's hooks with his right hand, or step inside and hit Hill with hooks to the liver. That was the plan right there. Take away Hill's left hand."

While the bout was not an epic, boxing fans could appreciate Hearns' chameleon-like ability to dominate with brains as well as brawn. He fought a sharp, focused, disciplined fight, and studiously followed Sherer's game plan.

The fight opened with both champion and challenger trying to establish their outside games. Possessing more power in his left and landing it more often, Hearns outjabbed Hill, which enabled him to dictate the pace. He hurt Hill, a 2-1 favorite at fight time, with a hook in the second, a right in the third, and a flurry in the sixth, and seemed to have the champion ready to fall in the ninth.

Aside from landing a weak jab, Hill scored with a double-hook in the fifth round, but Hearns' often questionable legs kept him upright. In the late rounds, pleas for a much-needed knockout from cornerman Freddie Roach couldn't fire Hill up.

Although he looked a bit fatigued near the end, Hearns clinched the fight by winning the 11th round on all three cards. Jerry Roth and Art Lurie both scored 115-113, and Chuck Giampa saw it 116-112. *The Ring* tabbed Hearns the winner by 116-112.

In the wake of Hearns' triumph, two questions arise: What does Hearns have left? And what does he have left to prove? The respective answers: a lot, and nothing.

"Did my legs look spent?" he asked. "I've treated my body like fine wine. Outside the ring, I take good care of myself."

"The way he trains and takes care of his body," added Sherer. "he can handle any light heavyweight or cruiserweight in the world. He trains differently now. You can't run a 32-year-old like a 22-year-old. We don't run five or six miles a day anymore. Just three miles. And once a week he runs up a mountain.

"In the gym, we stress fundamentals. He's got one of the best left jabs ever. We work on that a lot. We've improved his hook and added a right to the kidney."

In order for Hearns to leave the game on top, he must be totally focused for the remainder of his career, which, according to the fighter and his trainer, will last another year to 18 months. During that time, fellow light heavyweight champions Dennis Andries (WBC), a Hearns kayo victim in March 1987, and Prince Charles Williams (IBF), and most notably WBA cruiserweight champion Bobby Czyz, will shuffle for big-money position.

"Hearns can call his own shots right now," says Dr. Ferdie Pacheco, who has worked as a TV analyst in Hearns' last two fights. "He can get another decent payday for moving up and fighting Czyz. At his stage of his career, there's no reason why Tommy should risk himself for small purses.

"Czyz will stand right in front of him the way Hill did. He has the right style for Tommy, and he'll bring him the most money."

Although Hearns maintains that his options are wide open, a Czyz fight appears the most logical. Czyz, a former light heavyweight champion who has lost to Hill, Williams (twice), and Andries, represents a newer, bigger challenge. And despite all his accomplishments, Hearns remains driven by fresh challenges.

"Tommy has made enough money and had a great career," says CBS analyst Gil Clancy. "It's time he thought about retiring. He will probably beat Czyz and win that cruiserweight championship. I thought that he should have retired after the Barkley fight, which shows you I'm not the smartest guy in the world. But if I were his manager, I'd be looking at Czyz. Nobody else."

"You can talk about Hagler, Leonard, and Duran," said Sherer, "but when all is said and done, Tommy will have accomplished more than all those guys. He's still fighting, and still champion of the world. He's the Hank Aaron of boxing."

During the '80s, Hearns' accomplishments were overshadowed by those of Sugar Ray Leonard. But Leonard's career-ending loss to Terry Norris, and his admitted use of drugs in the mid-'80s, has left his image severely tarnished. Conversely, Hearns

(Continued on page 69)

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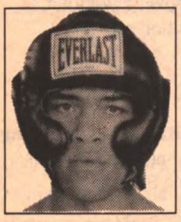

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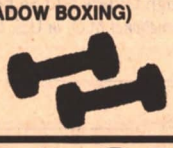

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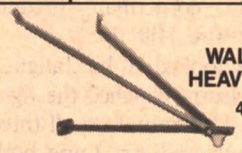

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Thomas Hearns

(Continued from page 67)

draws nothing but applause in his public appearances. His time, it seems, has finally arrived. How long that time will last, however, is a question only Hearns' future fights will answer.

Sherer insists that Hearns is not out to fool anybody, least of all himself.

"Tommy is a student of the game," says Sherer. "He very aware of the way Leonard, Hagler, Benitez, Cuevas, and Duran have left the game. And he's determined not to do the same."

So now, with his battles against those champions a part of boxing lore, the aging gunman waits to see which gunslinger will next try to end his career. He sits tall as he rides through town, anticipating the shootout he knows will come, his left hand resting on his newest championship belt and his right hand on the trigger. ■

Lou Ambers

(Continued from page 43)

Now, one month after his second loss to Jenkins in less than a year, Ambers had the itch to fight again. He arrived at Weill's office later that day and found his manager waiting with a contract.

"I want you to sign this," said Weill.

Ambers signed, then asked, "When am I going to fight again?"

"Never," answered Weill.

Lou Ambers was 27 years old and finished in the fight game. One of the greatest lightweight champions of all-time (a record of 86-8-6), he had just signed a contract that would pay him $1 a year for 10 years.

"I didn't want him to box anymore, so I made sure nobody else could talk him into it," Weill later explained. "He had money in annuities. He wouldn't starve. He was my boy, my baby. I wouldn't let him get abused."

Al Weill was neither beloved by the boxing fraternity, nor the sporting press, who resented his autocratic nature. A fat, cigar-chomping, crusty man with a foghorn voice, Weill ruled his fighters (including, years later, the great Rocky Marciano) with an iron fist. Yet, despite having been duped into signing the contract that ended his career, Ambers, now 78 and living with his wife of 57 years, Margaret, in Phoenix, Arizona, looks back on their relationship with fondness.

"Getting along with Al was no secret," he said recently. "You just had to understand one thing: He was the boss and his word was law. Once you respected that, he treated you like a son."

Ambers' true parents never wanted their son to be involved in the fight game. But as one of 10 children, Ambers, born Luigi D'Ambrosio on November 9, 1913, in Herkimer, New York, turned to boxing as a teenager to help his family survive the Depression. His first experiences were the unsanctioned bootleg bouts that were popular in upstate New York and Pennsylvania during the 1930s.

His mother didn't even know of her son's ambition to box. She was a deeply religious woman, and at Sunday Mass she would proudly watch Luigi singing in the church choir, never knowing that the night before, her little angel was in the cellar "ring" of the same church, swapping haymakers with one of the alter boys.

His father, who always dreamed of his son receiving an education, reluctantly gave his permission, but warned, "Don't come back with a black eye or I'll give you another."

Ambers, still a teenager, hooked up with Nick Rafael, a part-time fight manager who took him to Kingston, New York, in search of a fight. The card was filled, they were told, but one fighter, Otis Paradise, had failed to show. Ambers made his debut that night, but nobody told the ring announcer of the switch. Fighting as Otis Paradise, he recorded a one-round knockout. He was asked to fight the following week and soon became one of the more popular boxers on the bootleg circuit.

"I never met the real Otis Paradise," Ambers recalls, "and I don't know anything about him. Maybe he just went around bragging about all the guys he licked on the bootleg circuit."

Ambers fought about 80 bootleg bouts, but it was a victory against Frankie Wallace, who had previously beaten featherweight champion Freddie Miller in an over-the-weight match, that pushed him toward the big time. *If I'm good enough to beat the guy who beats the featherweight champion, what am I doing here?* Ambers asked himself.

During the winter of 1931, Ambers, with $3 in his pocket, rode the rails to New York City. After spending nights sleeping on benches in Central Park and Grand Central Station, he learned that his idol, Tony Canzoneri, was training across the river in New Jersey for his lightweight title bout against Kid Chocolate. Ambers got a job as a sparring partner, earning $75 a week. But after the fight, he was back on the streets, bouncing back and forth between Herkimer and New York City, and fighting whenever and wherever he could.

In early-1933, Ambers landed a bout with Tony Scarpati at the Coney Island Velodrome. In the crowd that night was Al Weill, who had come to see one of the boxers featured in the main event. Weill watched intently as Ambers earned a six-round decision. He liked what he saw, and afterward offered to be Ambers' manager.

It was Weill who came up with the name Lou Ambers. Ambers had gone back to fighting under his given name, but Weill thought Luigi D'Ambrosio sounded too ethnic. A friend of Lou's suggested the surname Ambers. Weill liked it.

"It doesn't sound Italian," Ambers complained.

"I don't give a damn what it sounds like," snapped Weill. "From now on, you're Lou Ambers."

Weill brought in Goldman and Whitey Bimstein as trainers, and for the first time, Ambers' career began to move in the right direction. His first bout with his new handlers came on the undercard of the Lou Brouillard-Ben Jeby middleweight title bout in August 1933. He looked like anything but a future champion.

Blinking from the bright house lights, Ambers stood in his corner

(Continued on page 70)

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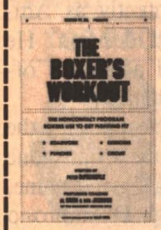

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Lou Ambers

(Continued from page 69)

wearing an old, tattered bathrobe that was several sizes too small. His hair was a mess, his trunks were faded, and his shoes were one step above black canvas sneakers. He removed his robe and exposed a chalky-white body that was devoid of muscles. Ringside writers suggested that Ambers appeared better suited for a day at the swimming hole on his father's farm than a boxing match.

But when the bell rang, Ambers went after his opponent, Jack Rose, and won a four-round decision. The same writers who had belittled him now tagged him "The Herkimer Hurricane."

The storm would rage unsubsided for 32 bouts.

"It was like fighting a windmill," Sammy Fuller said after losing a 15-round decision to Ambers. "I couldn't keep my face away from his gloves."

A fifth-round kayo of Harold Boy Hughes was enough to convince Weill that his fighter was ready to fight Canzoneri for vacant title. Canzoneri had lost the crown to Barney Ross, but Ross vacated after outgrowing the division. A crowd of 18,000 squeezed into Madison Square Garden on May 10, 1935, to see if Canzoneri could regain the title.

Ambers was slow to come out of his corner at the opening bell and fought cautiously for the first two rounds. In the third, a straight left snapped his head, and a right to the jaw floored him. Up at the count of two, he was groggy and quickly found himself on the floor for a second time.

It wasn't until the seventh round that Ambers forgot who he was fighting and remembered who he was. A steady fire of lefts and rights sent Canzoneri reeling, and, suddenly, there were some in the crowd that thought Ambers was on his way to an upset. But Canzoneri held tough. He came on again in the 15th round and almost knocked Ambers down for a third time. Canzoneri was awarded the decision.

Though Ambers lost, he was hardly beaten. He grabbed his ukelele and invited reporters to his dressing room for a chorus of his favorite song, "I Want A Girl Just Like The Girl That Married Dear Old Dad." He vowed to win a return match.

Meanwhile, Weill wasted no time in getting his fighter back in the ring. Next up, seven weeks later, was Fritzie Zivic in Pittsburgh (Zivic's hometown). Ambers was in control until the seventh round, when Zivic landed a right that fractured the Herkimer Hurricane's jaw. Begging Weill not to stop the fight between rounds, Ambers managed to survive the ninth and 10th rounds and win the decision.

Ambers returned to the ring after a six-month layoff and won his next 13 bouts. Among those victories was a seventh-round kayo of Scarpati, who was carried from the ring and never regained consciousness. Ambers was crushed. Deeply religious, he thought of quitting, but was coaxed into fighting Pete Mascio in a fundraiser for the Scarpati family.

His victory against Mascio brought back Ambers' boxing appetite, and four months later, he found himself slated for another shot at Canzoneri's title.

Again, 18,000 fans packed Madison Square Garden, but on September 3, 1936, 16 months after their initial fight, Ambers was no longer awed by his opponent.

Dozens of ring wars had caught up with Canzoneri, and Ambers, a mere 22, attacked savagely in the early rounds. He went on to win 12 of 15 rounds en route to a unanimous decision. After the verdict was announced, Ambers grabbed the ring microphone and yelled, "Mama, I won. Hurray for America."

Ambers fought 17 times over the next 18 months, losing only two over-the-weight matches, one to former 147-pound champion Jimmy McLarnin, who outweighed him by 10 pounds, and the other to Puerto Rico's Pedro Montanez, which he later avenged in a title match.

Ambers' next defense, at Madison Square Garden on August 17, 1938, drew the attention of the world. His challenger, Henry Armstrong, held both the featherweight and welterweight championships, and a victory would make him the first boxer to simultaneously hold three titles.

Armstrong dished out a beating, but Ambers absorbed everything and gave some back. He had Armstrong bleeding from the nose, eyes, and mouth, and after several of the rounds, Armstrong headed toward the wrong corner. But Ambers was floored in the fifth round and again in the sixth, and

his late rally served only to gain a split of the decision.

"Armstrong threw so many punches," Ambers said, "it was like fighting three guys."

The crowd booed the decision, and Weill argued with the judges. Ambers, on the other hand, walked across the ring and gave Armstrong a warm smile and a friendly handshake.

Though he lost the title, Ambers' popularity with fans and reporters soared. "Not The Winner, But Still A Champion," cried the *Daily Mirror* two days after the fight, which was looked upon as the greatest lightweight battle since the Battling Nelson-Ad Wolgast 40-round epic in 1910.

It took Ambers nine victories to earn a rematch, which was set for Yankee Stadium on August 22, 1939.

One of the most eagerly anticipated fights of its era, Ambers-Armstrong II did not live up to the excitement generated by their first bout. Armstrong stalled often and lost five rounds on fouls, and the challenger regained the title via decision.

Ambers won five more bouts, but his best boxing was behind him. In May 1940, Jenkins handed him his first loss by kayo when he floored the champion in the third round. Not surprisingly, Ambers wanted another shot. But Weill, Goldman, and Bimstein weren't too sure about a rematch.

"Lou," said Weill, "maybe you shouldn't fight Jenkins."

Bimstein said that Ambers cried and pleaded with his handlers, and they reluctantly agreed to a return bout.

After a 10-round tuneup victory over Norman Quarles, Ambers signed to meet Jenkins on February 28, 1941.

Weill stood outside the ring and watched Ambers take control for the first six rounds. But this was not the same Ambers who had taken punishment from Canzoneri and Armstrong and always came back for more. This was an old fighter who was a step slower and could no longer duck a punch.

Three times Jenkins sent the former champion sprawling to the canvas. After the third knockdown, Weill threw in the towel.

Ambers went home to Herkimer to rest and prepare for his next fight. Weill went back to his office to draw up the papers. ■

Phil Guarnieri and Roger Mooney are freelance writers based, respectively, in Hempstead, New York, and Huntington, New York.

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HEAVYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
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Mike Tyson (USA)	1	1	1
Razor Ruddock (CAN)	2	3	2
George Foreman (USA)	3	5	3
Tim Witherspoon (USA)	4	6	7
Alex Stewart (JAM)	5	12	9
Riddick Bowe (USA)	6	7	5
Lennox Lewis (GB)	7	4	6
Renaldo Snipes (USA)	8	-	-
Larry Holmes (USA)	9	-	-
James Douglas (USA)	10	9	-
Pierre Coetzer (SA)	-	2	4
Tommy Morrison (USA)	12	8	-
Orlin Norris (USA)	11	10	-
Carl Williams (USA)	13	-	8
Mike Evans (USA)	18	-	10

CRUISERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Massimiliano Duran (ITA)	C	-	-
Anaclet Wamba (FRA)	1	5	11
Carlos DeLeon (PR)	2	10	-
Johnny Nelson (GB)	3	9	7
Taoufik Belbouli (FRA)	4	1	-
Mike Hunter (USA)	5	3	-
Derek Angol (GB)	6	4	8
Robert Daniels (USA)	7	2	-
Alfred Cole (USA)	11	6	3
Bash Ali (USA)	-	7	4
James Warring (USA)	8	8	2
Phil Jackson (USA)	9	-	9
Craig Peterson (AUSTRL)	10	-	-
Bobby Czyz (USA)	-	C	-
Jeff Lampkin (USA)	-	-	C
James Pritchard (USA)	-	-	1
Richard Mason (USA)	12	-	5
Iby Zimmerman (CAU)	-	-	6
Nate Miller (USA)	15	12	10

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Dennis Andries (GB)	C	-	-
Jeff Harding (AUSTRL)	1	4	10
Isaias Lucero (MEX)	2	3	4
Yawe Davis (UGA)	3	-	-
David Vedder (USA)	4	10	-
Frank Tate (USA)	5	-	1
Guy Waters (AUSTRL)	6	8	-
Graciano Rocchigiani (GER)	7	5	2
Joe Lasisi (NIG)	8	-	-
Andrew Maynard (USA)	9	6	9
Esteban Pizarro (PR)	10	7	8
Virgil Hill (USA)	-	C	3
Booker T. Word (USA)	21	1	12
Thomas Hearns (USA)	-	2	-
Eric Nicoletta (FRA)	-	9	-
Charles Williams (USA)	-	-	C
Vincent Boulware (USA)	-	-	5
Anthony Hembrick (USA)	11	11	6
Freddie Delgado (PR)	16	-	7

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Mauro Galvano (ITA)	C	-	-
Ron Essett (USA)	1	1	6
Christophe Tiozzo (FRA)	2	5	8
Dan Schommer (USA)	3	-	-
Tony Thornton (USA)	4	4	5
Randall Yonker (USA)	5	9	-
James Cook (GB)	6	2	-
Juan Carlos Gimenez (PAR)	7	-	2
Tony Byrd (USA)	8	6	4
Lindell Holmes (USA)	9	7	3
Lenzie Morgan (USA)	10	-	-
Victor Cordova (PAN)	-	C	-
Tarmo Uusivirta (FIN)	12	3	-
John Jarvis (USA)	20	8	1
Troy Darrell (USA)	-	10	-
Darrin Van Horn (USA)	-	-	C
Thulani Malinga (SA)	-	-	7
Nelson Alves (GER)	16	-	9
Doug DeWitt (USA)	-	-	10

MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Julian Jackson (USA)	C	-	-
Dennis Milton (USA)	1	2	5
Reggie Johnson (USA)	2	1	1
Michael Watson (GB)	3	7	2
Steve Collins (USA)	4	3	9
Sumbu Kalambay (ITA)	5	4	6
Herol Graham (GB)	6	8	10
Michael Nunn (USA)	7	5	3
Francesco Dell'Aquila (ITA)	8	6	-
Nigel Benn (GB)	9	-	7
Willie Monroe (USA)	10	-	-
Mike McCallum (JAM)	-	C	-
Tyrone Trice (USA)	-	9	-
Kid Milo (GB)	-	10	-
James Toney (USA)	-	-	C
Marlon Starling (USA)	-	-	4
Iran Barkley (USA)	-	-	8

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Terry Norris (USA)	C	-	-
Jorge Castro (ARG)	1	2	2
Troy Waters (AUSTRL)	2	-	-
Brett Lally (USA)	3	10	6
Aaron Davis (USA)	4	1	3
Julio Cesar Vazquez (ARG)	5	3	12
Glenn Wolfe (USA)	6	7	1
Donald Curry (USA)	7	-	11
Yung Kil Chung (KOR)	8	11	-
Jorge Vaca (MEX)	9	12	-
Mark Breland (USA)	10	-	4
Gilbert Dele (FRA)	-	C	-
Carl Daniels (USA)	18	4	-
Laurent Boudouani (FRA)	19	5	-
Jun Sok Hwang (KOR)	21	6	-
Gregory Clark (SA)	-	8	-
Hugo Olivares (BOL)	-	9	-
Gianfranco Rosi (ITA)	-	-	C
Tyrone Trice (USA)	-	-	5
Roy Jones (USA)	-	-	7
Ron Amundsen (USA)	-	-	8
Jorge Vaca (MEX)	-	-	9
Vincent Pettway (USA)	-	-	10

WELTERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Simon Brown (USA)	C	-	-
Buddy McGirt (USA)	1	2	1
Maurice Blocker (USA)	2	7	3
Glenwood Brown (USA)	3	3	2
Genaro Leon (MEX)	4	10	7
Marlon Starling (USA)	5	-	-
Jose Bermudez (COL)	6	12	-
Hiroyuki Yoshino (JAP)	7	8	-
Patrizio Oliva (ITA)	8	9	4
Luis Garcia (VEN)	9	1	6
Santos Cardona (PR)	10	-	-
Meldrick Taylor (USA)	-	C	-
Crisanto Espana (VEN)	-	4	8
Jong Oh Park (KOR)	11	5	12
Mark Breland (USA)	-	6	-
Carl Daniels (USA)	-	-	5
David Gonzalez (USA)	25	-	9
Stephen Johnson (USA)	-	-	10

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Julio Cesar Chavez (MEX)	C	-	-
Angel Hernandez (PR)	1	2	-
Roger Mayweather (USA)	2	5	2
Juan M. Coggi (ARG)	3	3	-
Alberto Cortes (ARG)	4	-	11
Pat Barrett (GB)	5	6	7
Edwin Rosario (PR)	6	4	-
Harold Brazier (USA)	7	-	8
Rafael Pineda (COL)	8	8	1
Lonnie Smith (USA)	9	-	-

Terrence Ali (USA)	10	9	3
Loreto Garza (USA)	-	C	-
Akinobu Hiranaka (JAP)	27	1	-
Mun Sil Chi (KOR)	22	7	-
Rodney Moore (USA)	12	10	5
Gianfranco Rosi (ITA)	-	-	C
Charles Murray (USA)	13	-	4
Greg Haugen (USA)	-	-	6
Romallis Ellis (USA)	20	11	9
Courtney Hooper (USA)	-	-	10

LIGHTWEIGHT	**WBC**	**WBA**	**IBF**
Pernell Whitaker (USA)	C	C	C
Chil Sung Chun (KOR)	1	3	-
Poli Diaz (SPA)	2	1	7
Darryl Tyson (USA)	3	4	4
Tracy Spann (USA)	4	2	1
Freddie Pendleton (USA)	5	-	2
Sharmba Mitchell (USA)	6	6	8
Anthony Jones (USA)	7	-	9
Carl Crook (GB)	8	12	11
Shane Knox (AUSTRL)	9	-	10
Jorge Paez (MEX)	10	-	3
Iwao Otomo (JAP)	17	5	-
Juan Nazario (PR)	13	7	12
Omar Flores (MEX)	14	8	-
Ricardo Toledo (CHILE)	-	9	-
Jorge Barboza (VEN)	-	10	-
Eduardo Molina (COL)	19	-	5
Miguel Julio (COL)	-	-	6

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHT	**WBC**	**WBA**	**IBF**
Azumah Nelson (GHA)	C	-	-
Jeff Fenech (AUSTRL)	1	5	-
John-John Molina (PR)	2	-	1
Alfred Rangel (USA)	3	-	-
Tyrone Downes (TRIN)	4	-	-
Bernard Taylor (USA)	5	-	8
Genaro Hernandez (USA)	6	2	10
Marcos Guevera (VEN)	7	-	-
Rafael Ruelas (USA)	8	-	-
Takeyuki Akagi (JAP)	9	11	-
Daniel Londas (FRA)	10	7	6
Anibal Nieves (VEN)	-	1	-
Antonio Esparragoza (VEN)	-	3	-
Joey Gamache (USA)	-	4	7
Jerry Ngobeni (SA)	-	6	5
Pierre Lorcy (FRA)	21	8	-
Mon Soon Kim (KOR)	24	9	11
Fernando Caicedo (COL)	17	10	2
Tony Lopez (USA)	-	-	C
Brian Mitchell (SA)	-	-	3
Coco Ramirez (MEX)	-	-	4
Calvin Grove (USA)	18	-	9

FEATHERWEIGHT	**WBC**	**WBA**	**IBF**
Marcos Villasana (MEX)	C	-	-
Ricardo Cepeda (USA)	1	2	-
Paul Hodkinson (GB)	2	4	-
Louie Espinoza (USA)	3	-	3
Manuel Medina (COL)	4	7	9
Antonio Esparragoza (VEN)	5	-	-
Ever Beleno (COL)	6	12	-
Lupe Gutierrez (USA)	7	-	2
Rafael Zuniga (COL)	8	-	-
Tom Johnson (USA)	9	5	1
Kevin Kelley (USA)	10	9	-
Yung Kyun Park (KOR)	-	C	-
Eloy Rojas (VEN)	11	1	-
Jackie Gunguluza (SA)	-	3	10
Rafael Ruelas (USA)	-	6	7
Masuaki Takeda (JPN)	-	8	-
Kennedy McKinney (USA)	-	10	12
Troy Dorsey (USA)	14	-	C
November Ntshingila (SA)	-	-	4
Jose Rodriguez (PR)	-	-	5
James Leija (USA)	29	-	6
Cedric Mingo (USA)	-	-	8

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHT	**WBC**	**WBA**	**IBF**
Kiyoshi Hatanaka (JAP)	C	-	-
Tracy Patterson (USA)	1	1	2
Jesus Salud (USA)	2	-	9
Pedro Decima (ARG)	3	-	6
Jesse Benavides (USA)	4	-	-
Arcelio Diaz (COL)	5	3	4
Ki Jun Lee (KOR)	6	-	-
Paul Banke (USA)	7	-	-
Daniel Zaragoza (MEX)	8	-	-
Freddy Cruz (DR)	9	2	-
Jae Won Choi (KOR)	10	-	-
Luis Mendoza (COL)	-	C	-
Jemal Hinton (USA)	13	4	8
Ramon Guzman (VEN)	-	5	7
Chun Huh (KOR)	12	6	-
Noree Jockygym (THAI)	20	7	-
Wilfredo Vasquez (PR)	11	8	-
Bung Chul Kim (KOR)	-	9	-
Vincenzo Belcastro (ITA)	-	10	-
Welcome Ncita (SA)	-	-	C
Baby Rojas (USA)	-	-	1
Hurley Snead (USA)	-	-	3
Richard Duran (USA)	-	-	5
Orlando Fernandez (PR)	-	-	10

BANTAMWEIGHT	**WBC**	**WBA**	**IBF**
Greg Richardson (USA)	C	-	-
Pepillo Valdez (MEX)	1	-	10
Raul Perez (MEX)	2	-	9
Victor Rabanales (MEX)	3	-	-
Chang Kyun Oh (KOR)	4	-	-
Yong Hoon Lee (KOR)	5	3	-
Gerardo Martinez (USA)	6	-	11
Hector Acero (DR)	7	6	-
Eun Sik Lee (KOR)	8	8	-
Francisco Alvarez (COL)	9	-	4
Joichiro Tatsuyoshi (JAP)	10	9	-
Luisito Espinosa (PHIL)	-	C	-
Israel Contreras (VEN)	-	1	1
Eliecer Julio (COL)	11	2	-
Abraham Torres (VEN)	-	4	-
Yun Chun Min (KOR)	14	5	-
Junior Jones (USA)	21	7	-
Eddie Cook (USA)	28	10	8
Orlando Canizales (USA)	-	-	C
Thierry Jacob (FRA)	12	11	2
Duke McKenzie (GB)	13	-	3
Juvenal Berrio (COL)	-	-	5
Billy Hardy (GB)	18	-	6
Kiyoshi Hatanaka (JAP)	-	-	7

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHT	**WBC**	**WBA**	**IBF**
Sung Kil Moon (KOR)	C	-	-
Johnny Tapia (USA)	1	5	4
Katsuya Onizuka (JAP)	2	2	11
Armando Castro (MEX)	3	8	9
Thalerngsak Sithbaobay (THAI)	4	3	-
Kenji Matsumura (JAP)	5	7	-
Armando Salazar (MEX)	6	-	-
Nana Konadu (GHA)	7	-	-
Rey Paciones (PHIL)	8	6	2
David Griman (VEN)	9	1	-
Carlos Mercado (COL)	10	-	1
Khaosai Galaxy (THAI)	-	C	-
Akeem Anifowoshe (NIG)	-	4	5
Duke McKenzie (GB)	-	9	-
Ernesto Ford (PAN)	16	10	-
Robert Quiroga (USA)	-	-	C
Daorung Chuvatana (THAI)	-	-	3
Joel Luna (MEX)	-	-	6
Satoshi Shingaki (JAP)	-	-	7
Vincenzo Belcastro (ITA)	-	-	8
Marianus (INDO)	25	12	10

FLYWEIGHT	**WBC**	**WBA**	**IBF**
Muangchai Kittikasem (THAI)	C	-	-
Sot Chitalada (THAI)	1	-	-
Jung Koo Chang (KOR)	2	-	-
Isaias Zamudio (USA)	3	-	9
Yun Un Chin (KOR)	4	6	-
Francisco Tejedor (COL)	5	-	-
Richard Clarke (JAM)	6	-	5
Yul Woo Lee (KOR)	7	4	-
Pat Clinton (GB)	8	-	-
Yuri Arbachakov (USSR)	9	9	-
Hugo Soto (ARG)	10	11	-
Elvis Alvarez (COL)	-	C	-
Rodolfo Blanco (COL)	14	1	1
Jonathan Penalosa (PHIL)	-	2	2
Kotaro Hayashi (JAP)	21	3	-
Yong Kang Kim (KOR)	13	5	-
Alvaro Mercado (COL)	-	7	-
Julio Gudino (PAN)	-	8	-
Torsak Osoisapa (THAI)	-	10	4
Dave McAuley (IRE)	-	-	C
Tongchai Kittikasem (THAI)	-	-	3
Azadin Anhar (INDO)	-	-	6
Al Kotey (GHA)	26	-	7
Ricky Romero (USA)	15	-	8
Scotty Olson (USA)	15	-	10

LIGHT FLYWEIGHT	**WBC**	**WBA**	**IBF**
Melchor Cob Castro (MEX)	C	-	7
Domingo Sosa (DR)	1	10	1
Humberto Gonzalez (MEX)	2	3	-
Rolando Pascua (PHIL)	3	-	3
Hiroki Ioka (JAP)	4	1	-
Nam Hoon Cha (KOR)	5	2	-
Jeung Keun Lim (KOR)	6	-	-
Gerry Penalosa (PHIL)	7	11	10
Santiago Mendez (MEX)	8	-	-
Katzumi Komiyama (JAP)	9	-	-
Jorge Rivera (MEX)	10	-	-
Myung Woo Yuh (KOR)	-	C	-
Jacob Matlala (SA)	-	4	-
Robinson Cuestas (PAN)	25	5	2
Leo Gamez (VEN)	14	6	-
Benedicto Murillo (PAN)	-	7	-
Juan A. Torres (PAN)	16	8	-
Kajkong Danphoothai (THAI)	-	9	-
Michael Carbajal (USA)	-	-	C
Boy Lucas (PHIL)	-	-	4
Leon Salazar (PAN)	12	-	5
Antonio Perez (MEX)	11	-	6
Javier Varguez (MEX)	18	-	8
Rey Hernandez (MEX)	20	-	9

STRAWWEIGHT	**WBC**	**WBA**	**IBF**
Ricardo Lopez (MEX)	C	-	-
Kyung Yung Lee (KOR)	1	-	-
Hideyuki Ohashi (JAP)	2	5	-
Rocky Lim (JAP)	3	3	3
Chana Porpaoin (THAI)	4	2	7
Ala Villamor (PHIL)	5	10	2
Bong Jun Kim (KOR)	6	1	-
Pretty Boy Lucas (PHIL)	7	4	-
Alfredo Xeque (MEX)	8	-	-
Danny Nunez (DR)	9	7	-
Andy Tabanas (PHIL)	10	-	4
Hi Yong Choi (KOR)	-	C	-
Carlos Rodriguez (VEN)	26	6	-
Key Sugar Mike (PHIL)	-	8	-
Carlos Murillo (PAN)	27	9	-
Far-Lan Lookmingkwan (THAI)	-	-	C
Felix Naranjo (COL)	-	-	1
Said Iskandar (INDO)	17	-	5
Eric Chavez (PHIL)	29	-	6
Abdi Pohan (INDO)	-	-	8
Soo Yong Kwon (KOR)	-	-	9
Silverio Barcenas (PAN)	11	11	10

Battling Levinsky

(Continued from page 19)

Levinsky's most active month was January 1914, when he fought nine bouts, scoring two knockouts and seven no-decisions. But no feat equaled that New Year's Day in 1915, when the Battler's fistic dance card began in the a.m. with a 10-round, no-decision meeting with Bartley Madden in Brooklyn. He then journeyed to Manhattan for an afternoon date with Soldier Kearns, who outweighed him by at least 25 pounds, in another 10-round, no-decision affair. The insatiable pugilist next hopped a train for Waterbury, Connecticut, and a 12-round, no-decision engagement with Gunboat Smith. Some reports indicate that on that night, Levinsky, a ring cutey if there ever was one, outboxed the dangerous Smith.

And this was only the beginning of a stunningly busy 1915 for Levinsky—a year in which he fought 52 times.

If the Battler's constant combat seemed to contain a whiff of promotional genius, there's a reason for that: It was masterminded by legendary manager "Dumb" Dan Morgan, pilot of welterweight champion Jack Britton, among others. Delighting over Levinsky's passion for frequent fighting, Morgan once said, "He'd fight every night if I told him to."

Dumb Dan recalled in his autobiography that he and Levinsky hooked up one morning in 1913, when "this big, blond, handsome Jewish boy" wandered into Morgan's office. Levinsky, who was born Barney Lebrowitz, but had been fighting out of Philadelphia since the age of 15 as Barney Williams, told Morgan, "I think I'm a fighter. I want a chance." According to Morgan, the following dialogue ensued:

"What do you do? Box and mix?"

"No sir. I circle and circle, move back, then rush in and tie 'em up a lot."

"Well, all they do around here is fight."

"I'm willin' to fight, too, Mr. Morgan."

When Jimmy Johnston, then the matchmaker at the St. Nicholas Arena, came by looking for a substitute heavyweight for that night, Levinsky, who weighed only 164, jumped at the chance. The opponent, whom Johnston had described as "just a bum," turned out to be Porky Flynn, a formidable giant who had faced the likes of Sam Langford and Jack Johnson. Flynn outweighed Levinsky by 40 pounds.

"This bum's a poser," Morgan told his new charge in the corner before the fight. "After the bell, he never leaves his corner for 30 or 40 seconds. He stands over there flexing his back muscles, trying to impress you. Get over there quickly, lead to your left. As soon as he turns to meet you, him him with the left. If he doesn't go down—run!"

After the young fighter did just as instructed, Flynn's eye "puffed up like a melon," Morgan recalled, and "the kid won the newspaper decision easily." Always thinking, Dumb Dan then told ring announcer Joe Humphries, "Do me a favor. Announce that Morgan's new Jewish find is now named Battling Levinsky, and he defies any Irishman in the country to lick him."

Morgan wouldn't have seemed like such a promotional genius, of course, if Levinsky, a defensive specialist in the style of Slapsie Maxie Rosenbloom, hadn't had the talent to turn boxing into a risk-free profession.

Levinsky "seldom hurt anybody," one newspaper stated, "and was too clever to let anybody hurt him."

"If you have seen one of Levinsky's fights, you have seen them all, or nearly all," said Runyon. "They are of a piece. There is rarely any prospect of the unexpected occurring in his battles. He will be there at the finish, but so will the other fellow. More often than not, Levinsky will be way out front in the matter of points, too." Runyon added that there was "seldom anything blood-curdling about his exhibitions."

Despite Levinsky's lack of a killer instinct, he seemed to genuinely love to fight.

"I used to get on a train in New York," he once gleefully recalled, "jump up to Boston, fight at night, jump down to some place in Connecticut, then back to Boston or some place near there, then hop over to Philly, back to New York, and maybe take a jump out to Buffalo or Rochester or Cleveland, one night after the other, as quicky as I could make the trips. Never got tired, and Dan Morgan used to say, 'Bat, for the love of Mike, get sick or something, will you? This change of food and water on the night stands is killing me.' "

Asked why he fought so often, Levinsky said simply, "I never get hurt—and I like the money."

Just as Levinsky's overactive workdays can make today's fighters seem coddled, if not unemployed, his many bouts with Jack Dillon make rivals like Ali and Frazier, who clashed only three times, seem like strangers.

Before Levinsky won the light heavyweight title from Dillon in October 1916, the two had already met nine times—and had already fought five times that year. Though the 5'7" Dillon was four inches shorter than Levinsky, he had gotten the better of the series, winning two newspaper decisions.

"Levinsky was always great on the rally toward the close of their contests," Morgan recalled years later. "Dillon would get a good lead and then [Levinsky] would fight like a wildcat to overcome the lead, but did not. They always gave their customers a good show for the money."

When Levinsky and Dillon met for the 10th time, in Boston, few boxing fans thought the challenger would win. Dillon also doubted Levinsky's chances, and wasn't in the best of shape for the bout. But Levinsky was nothing if not persistent.

"Every rush made by Jack was handled by Levinsky, who jabbed his left out straight and used a short, stiff hook to change the direction of Dillon," one reporter wrote.

The victory was surely the highlight of Levinsky's career, which went downhill from there. In 1918, the Battler was knocked out in three rounds by a young heavyweight named Jack Dempsey. Years later, Morgan recalled that Dempsey's clever and ruthless manager, Jack Kearns, had "kidded Levinsky into thinking they'd have an exhibition." After the first round, a surprised Levinsky told Morgan, "This man wants to kill me."

Levinsky held the 175-pound crown for four years before making his first defense. In October 1920, he accepted the challenge of France's "Orchid Man," Georges Carpentier, and fell in four rounds. A dozen fights later, in January 1922, he met Gene Tunney for something called the American light heavyweight championship, a title dreamed up by the inventive Morgan. The manager later summarized the excessively strategic Tunney-Levinsky fight by saying, "They both got the blame, but Tunney got the title." After the defeat, Levinsky retired until 1926, when he made a three-year comeback.

In 1929, following his second—and final—retirement, Levinsky said, "There is an old saying that a fighter is a bum when he starts and a bum when he finishes. From now on I am a spectator. I have always loved the boxing game, and I shall always have the interest of the sport at heart."

When the Battler died in 1949, Morgan told boxing writer Lester Bromberg, "He loved to fight, and I never liked one of my fighters better, even Britton."

Battling Levinsky's career, however, is best summed up not in Morgan's words, but his own: "I had some tough fights in my time," he told *The Ring* in 1924. "I never cared much who the other fellow was. Guess I faced 'em all. I used to keep in fine shape by boxing often and by working a lot in the gym. Guess maybe I worked too much. But I never did believe in loafing." ■

Ronald K. Fried is a writer and television producer. His book "Corner Men: Great Boxing Trainers" was published in April.

CLASSIC

REACHES THE TOP

Barney Ross, Former Golden Glove Champion, Dethrones Canzoneri To Win Lightweight Crown

From The Ring, August 1933

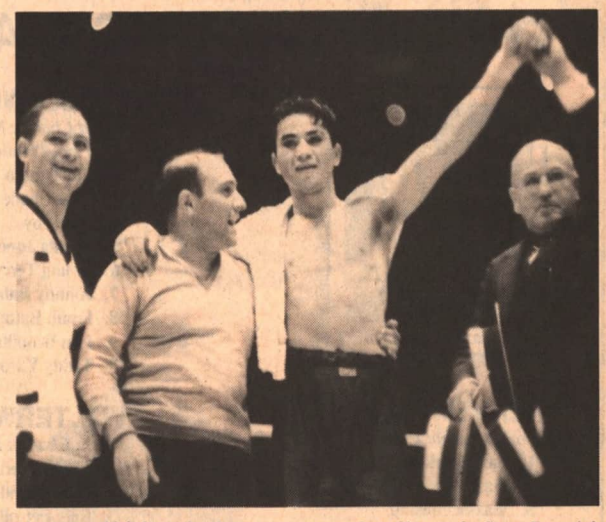
By Frank Maestro

Tony Canzoneri, holder of the world's lightweight title for three years, received a severe jolt when he lost the crown to Barney Ross at the end of 10 rounds of terrific milling in Chicago recently. That Tony had ample reason for feeling peeved at being shorn of his laurels is evident by the fact that referee Tommy Gilmore dissented in the casting of the ballots, he voting in favor of a draw, while the judges gave the verdict to Barney.

The catcalls and hisses that accompanied the decision showed also that many in the gathering of 11,000 were of the opinion that Tony had not lost the bout. But, in boxing, the decision of the officials is what counts, and, according to the divided opinion, Barney Ross won the bout and now reigns supreme as world's lightweight champion. Like Canzoneri, he came up from the amateur ranks and, by perseverence and ambition, has reached the goal of his ambition. To Barney go the congratulations of *The Ring* and its many readers.

The dark-eyed, raven-haired Chicago lad gained the laurels through an uphill battle. Until the seventh round, Canzoneri had the bout by a good margin. But, just when it looked like Ross would fold up under the avalanche of lefts and rights that kept peppering him, he came through with a flash that gained the eyes of the judges, and they cast their vote for him. Though both his eyes were cut when he went into the seventh round, and he had been outsmarted and outpunched by Canzoneri in the first six sessions, Barney, with the fire of youth and ambition in his eyes, suddenly found inspiration and lashed a two-fisted attack that turned the trick for him.

Canzoneri made the big mistake of stopping in his tracks in the last three rounds. Tony says that he thought he had the bout so clinched that he coasted, but the fact remains that during those rounds, Ross piled up the points that apparently gained the title for him. Had Canzoneri fought in the same manner at the windup as in the earlier rounds, he would have won.

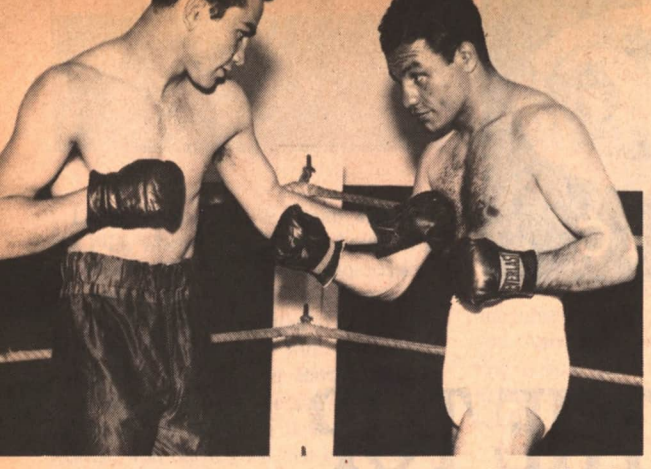


A new world lightweight champion is crowned at Chicago Stadium. From left: trainer Izzy Klein, manager Art Winch, Ross, and ring announcer Al Smith.

***

Tony tired perceptibly in those cantos. The heart was willing, but the legs and arms wouldn't coordinate for him. He was worn out, and Ross took advantage of Tony's condition to pull through a triumph.

Canzoneri, in whose custody the crown had remained since 1930, was visibly moved by the verdict. He was on the verge of crying, for he felt that he had been given an unfair decision. Packey McFarland, former lightweight star, who is now a member of the Illinois State Commission, on the other hand, declared that not only did he



Ross and reigning 135-pound champion Canzoneri square off in a publicity photo before their June 1933 showdown. Canzoneri had held the title since 1930.

approve of the verdict, but, in his opinion, Canzoneri had won only two rounds. And one must admit that McFarland is a good judge of boxing.

"Honestly, I thought I had won that bout hands down," said Tony, as the hand of Ross was raised. "In fact, so cocksure was I that I coasted in the eighth and ninth, in which Ross made his best showing. I didn't even extend myself in the 10th, and apparently the judges and some of the scribes thought that I had tired."

Sammy Goldman, manager of the champion, thought as did his charge. He was more emphatic in his statements. He declared that the decision was one of the worst he had ever experienced, and blamed it on the desire of the judges to see a hometown lad crowned king.

"That verdict was an outrage," said Sammy. "I think my boy won seven of the 10 rounds."

But that doesn't alter the fact that a new champion has been crowned and that Chicago now has the king of the lightweights in its midst. There were no knockdowns, but the fighting was fierce from the start, with the exception of the rounds in which the defending titleholder tired.

They set a blistering pace in the early rounds, with Tony doing the bulk of the execution. He seemed bent on scoring an early knockout, but he found in his rival a willing mixer, one not afraid to stand his ground and fight back. Ross met Canzoneri's assault with a left jab counter fire that did considerable damage. Tony continued to pile up points by a battering-ram attack through the sixth, when he began to clown a bit, and that is what lost the battle for him.

***

Barney Ross is a boy who can fight—make no mistake about that. A few months ago, the name of Ross meant little, but today he is the most-talked-of man in boxing in Illinois. Now that Barney has won a title, New York will probably try to claim him, as he was born on the lower East Side of Manhattan, in the heart of New York's ghetto, and lived in that city until he was six years old.

Many boxers have just drifted into the game. Ross, though, deliberately set out on the fistic trail because he

THE RING RATINGS, *August 1933*

Maxie Rosenbloom

HEAVYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Primo Carnera
1. Jack Sharkey
2. Max Baer
3. Max Schmeling
4. Tommy Loughran
5. King Levinsky
6. Patsy Perroni
7. Don McCorkindale
8. Otto Von Porat
9. Steve Hamas
10. Lee Ramage

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Maxie Rosenbloom
1. Joe Knight
2. Tony Shucco
3. Bob Godwin
4. Lew Scozza
5. Adolf Heuser
6. John Henry Lewis
7. Al Gainer
8. Harry Ebbets
9. Billy Jones
10. Joe Banovic

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
World Champ: Marcel Thil
1. Vince Dundee
2. Kid Tunero
3. Dave Shade
4. Ben Jeby
5. Gorilla Jones
6. Young Terry
7. Johnny Indrisano
8. Frank Battaglia
9. Lou Brouillard
10. Teddy Yarosz

WELTERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Jimmy McLarnin
1. Young Corbett
2. Jackie Fields
3. Billy Petrolle
4. Tony Herrera
5. Bep Van Klaveren
6. Eddie Kid Wolfe
7. Paulie Walker
8. Andy Callahan
9. Eddie Holmes
10. Baby Joe Gans

LIGHTWEIGHTS
World Champ: Barney Ross
1. Tony Canzoneri
2. Wesley Ramey
3. Benny Bass
4. Young Peter Jackson
5. Eddie Cool
6. Lew Massey
7. Steve Haliako
8. Battling Shaw
9. Jack Portney
10. Joe Ghnouly

FEATHERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Kid Chocolate
1. Seaman Watson
2. Jackie Wilson
3. Baby Arizmendi
4. Abie Israel
5. Freddy Miller
6. Johnny Pena
7. Petey Sarron
8. Nel Tarleton
9. Varias Milling
10. Tommy Paul

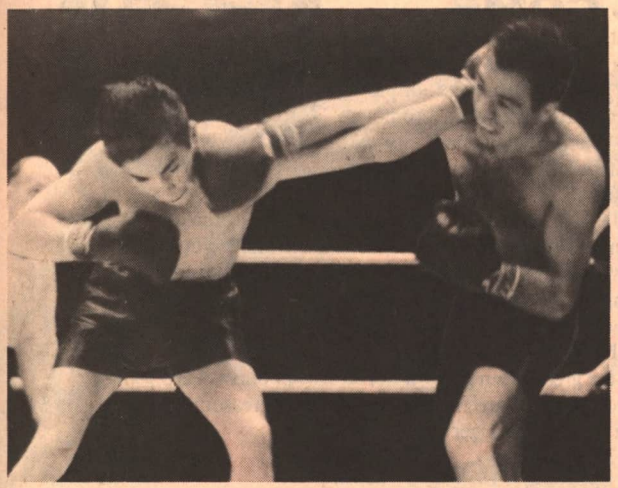
BANTAMWEIGHTS
World Champ: Al Brown
1. Young Tommy
2. Young Casanova
3. Speedy Dado
4. Pete Sanstol
5. Little Pancho
6. Joe Tieken
7. Newsboy Brown
8. Baby Palmore
9. Tommy Rogers
10. Ernie Maurer

FLYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Title Vacant
1. Midget Wolgast
2. Ginger Foran
3. Jackie Brown
4. Mickey McGuire
5. Valentin Anglemann
6. Maurice Huguenin
7. Frankie Genaro
8. Lucien Popesco
9. Mariano Arilla
10. Praxille Gyde

figured he could make more money by fighting than any other way. He started as an amateur, it is true, but even then he was a professional at heart, looking forward to the day when he would be well-paid for his fistic labors.

When Barney was in his early-teens, his father, proprietor of a grocery in Chicago's ghetto, was shot and killed by two men who attempted to hold up the store. That left it up to Barney and a brother to run the business. They soon sold out, and Barney worked at odd jobs while he completed a two-year high school course.

There didn't seem to be much of a future in anything he tried, and he began to think seriously of going into boxing. He talked it over with friends. One of them gave him some good advice. "If you want to be a fighter," counseled this one, "do it right. Go to one of the gymnasiums downtown and learn how to box."



Canzoneri scores with a right over Ross' jab. The defending champion controlled the first part of the bout, but slowed down the stretch and lost on points.

Young Barney took that advice. After taking lessons daily for several weeks, he was advised to get some actual experience as an amateur before trying the professional game. That was in 1929. So he entered the Chicago Golden Gloves tournament and surprised everyone, including himself, by winning the featherweight honors. He also boxed in the intercity tournament between New York and Chicago and won his fight.

"The hardest fight I ever had, amateur or professional," says Ross, "was not the Canzoneri battle for the title, but that intercity bout in Madison Square Garden with Al Santora. I didn't feel very good when I started for the ring. The two Chicago boys just ahead of me had both lost and had come back to the dressing room in tears.

"Well, anyway, Santora and I set a terrific pace for three rounds. I thought I had won and I was glad it was all over, because I was so tired I doubted if I could walk to the dressing room. And then the judges called it a draw and ordered another round.

"It didn't seem to me I could stand up for another round, but I made the effort and it did not take me long to find out that, tired as I was, Santora was more tired. I won the decision. That fight taught me something I will never forget—that no matter how bad off you may be, the other fellow may be worse."

Shortly after that fight, Ross turned professional. He just had to make some money to help the family. Barney has done so well that the family doesn't have any more financial worries. He won 23 bouts in a row, up to the time he annexed the championship. ■

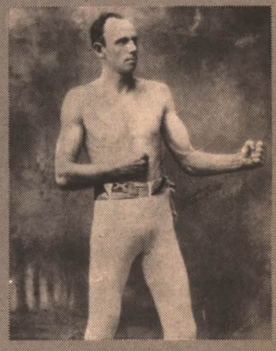
THE RING, August 1933

The Cover: In his 11th year as a pro, Jimmy "Baby Face" McLarnin wins his first world title, kayoing defending welterweight champion Young Corbett III in the first round at Wrigley Field in Los Angeles. McLarnin would engage in only three more title fights (all vs. Barney Ross), of which he would lose two.

The Gob's A Goner: Publisher Nat Fleischer reports that one month after McLarnin captured the welterweight crown, Italy's huge Primo Carnera claimed the heavyweight title, knocking out Jack "The Boston Gob" Sharkey in the sixth round. Fleischer described Sharkey's decision to trade punches with Carnera as "a foolish display of recklessness."

Next In Line: The power in his fists has brought hot heavyweight Max Baer all the way to a title try. A 10th-round kayo of former champion Max Schmeling (the photo shows them at the weigh-in) has secured Baer a shot at newly crowned king Primo Carnera. As it turned out, Baer wouldn't fight Carnera for another year. But when he did, he dethroned the champion via 11th-round kayo.

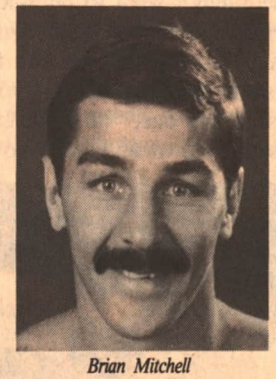
The Perfect Jab: Former lightweight champion Freddie Welsh was not only one of the most clever fighters of his era, but among the most innovative as well. Author Billy McCarney describes how Welsh perfected his legendary jab by painting a white dot on his punching bag and striking it again and again with maximum power. Welsh enjoyed an impressive reign—until he met Benny Leonard, who stopped him in nine rounds in 1917.



Freak Punches: Author John L. (Ike) Dorgan details some of boxing's most unorthodox weapons, including Tom Sharkey's right hand, which was nicknamed "The Navy Crusher," George LaBlanche's controversial "Pivot Blow," and former heavyweight champion Bob Fitzsimmons' solar plexus punch, which he used to dethrone Jim Corbett. Fitzsimmons is pictured.

Looking Ahead

By Jeff Ryan



Brian Mitchell

PAY IT AND HE WILL COME

Brian Mitchell's Sacra-momento of his March fight with Tony "The Tiger" Lopez was a draw that Mitchell insisted was a thanks-for-not-going-away present bestowed on local hero and homebody Lopez. Afterward, Mitchell's promoter, Cedric Kushner, said one trip to California's capital city was enough. So, of course, Lopez-Mitchell II is headed for Sacramento's Arco Arena on September 13.

"We talked about it and decided that we felt comfortable enough with the situation to go back," says Kushner. For promoter and fighter, the comfort zone is surrounded by velvet ropes and leads to a teller's window. Mitchell earned $200,000 for the first battle, and will be promised $250,000, plus a percentage of the live gate for the rematch. (Lopez will be paid the same.) Unlike the March fight, which was seen on TV only in South Africa, the September fight will be aired on pay-per-view by TVKO.

While Lopez continues to enjoy the green green grass of home, his opponents keep getting lured to that turf with the promise of plenty of green of their own. It's the reason any talk of Lopez fighting on the road is just a case of The Tiger pulling *our* tails.

CRUISER BRUISERS OR TV LOSERS?

Thomas Hearns

The Thomas Hearns-Virgil Hill bout was a pay-per-view bomb, assuring that the promoters of the "Hit Man's" next outing will have quite a few Maalox moments in the next few months. Entering the bout, Hill was 2-1 favorite with a 30-0 record and 10 title defenses. If Hearns vs. Hill couldn't sell, doesn't that forecast doom for Hearns vs. Over-The-Hill, ringworn WBA cruiserweight titlist Bobby Czyz?

Absolutely not. Hearns-Czyz will be a winner. And to borrow a line from Martin Luther King Jr., it will have less to do with the color of Czyz' skin than the content of his character.

Hill's five matinee performances on ABC got him recognition, but the wrong kind. He was a stuporstar who bored viewers into running outside to cut the grass. Czyz, on the other hand, is gutsy, he guarantees action, and he revitalized his image by whipping unbeaten Andrew Maynard on ABC last year. Czyz won't hold a March Of Dimes Jabathon with Hearns, but will instead test his rival's ability to retreat on 33-year-old legs.

With Leonard and Hagler retired for good, fans will realize this is Hearns' last test. And if it costs $19.95 or less, they'll want to see it.

LISTEN UP

Hector Camacho

Meldrick Taylor

Promoter **Dan Duva** may match **Meldrick Taylor** and **Hector Camacho** for October or November. Take that as a sign that Duva will work feverishly to hook up **Pernell Whitaker** and **Julio Cesar Chavez** for sometime this winter . . . It's official: **Evander Holyfield-Mike Tyson** will take place at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. From where I'm sitting, it looks like the financially strapped **Donald Trump** is finished as a serious big-fight player . . . Mark it down: **George Foreman** won't be around to provide his abysmal analysis for the duration of his four-year contract with HBO. Within a year, the network will report that Foreman is leaving in order to concentrate on his other career, the one he's good at. The Environmental Protection Agency will then confirm that HBO's air quality has improved. ■

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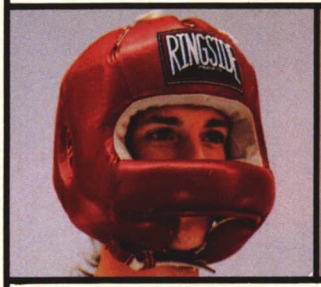

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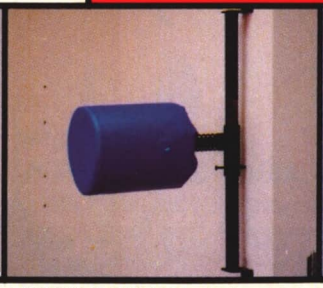

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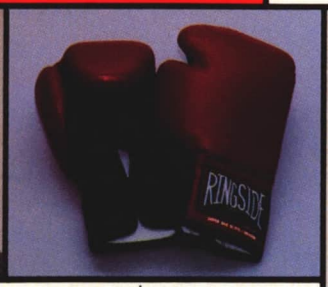

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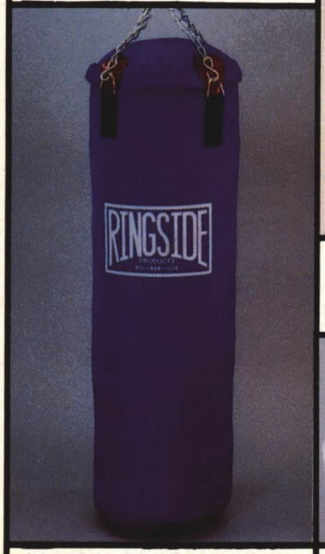

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